

THE GATEWAY

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DAVID JOHNSTON

LOGGING SOME BUILD TIME A pair of MEC E 260 students make last-minute adjustments to their miniature lumber delivery vehicle. For full story, see page 2.

Campaign '08 passes ambitions

JENNIFER HUYGEN
Senior News Editor

After eight years of fundraising, the University of Alberta's Campaign 2008 has tallied its donations and now takes its place as the largest such campaign ever completed in Western Canada and the second largest in Canadian history.

Since starting the campaign in September 2000 and launching it to the public in November 2004, the University managed to raise a total of \$581.7 million by 31 December of last year, surpassing their original goal of \$310 million.

"It was originally conceived of as ending in the University's centenary, so 'Celebrate one century, build the next' as a tag line was really the idea of moving into the University's second century," explained Doug Nelson, the U of A's chief development officer and lead staff member overseeing the campaign.

Nanotechnology could unlock safer cancer treatments

JONATHAN TAVES
News Staff

A team of researchers at the University of Alberta is developing a set of advanced nanotechnology particles that could one day replace radiation and chemotherapy as a cancer treatment.

The minuscule nanoparticles, about 100 times smaller than the width of a human hair, have the ability to deliver genetic material and medicines to targeted cells.

Dr Jie Chen, an associate professor of electrical engineering with a focus in biomedical nanotechnology, patented the particles, called M-nanodarts, in November 2008.

"I got interested in this research because I think this is the next wave of technology. People live longer, and they want a better quality of life. Because nano is small [...] nano as a medicine for diagnosis and improving treatments is very promising," Chen said.

Depending on what type of disease is being targeted, different types of organic matter are bound with the M-nanodots, which are then injected into the specific area and triggered by ultrasound waves.

"The particle itself is dumb, only sensitive to the ultrasound. So in order to target it to a specific tumor, you need to bind it with bio-molecules," Chen said.

"Right now we are working on

binding it with a hormone for instance, which could be used to treat breast cancer."

Unlike radiation, the ultrasound waves that trigger a reaction in the particles aren't harmful to surrounding cells.

"The ultrasound will generate these microbubbles [...] When the bubble bursts, it will get the chemicals to damage the [cancer] cell membrane," he said.

The chemical portion of the treatment is the organic matter attached to the technology.

"There's a special bamboo that grows in China and Japan. On this bamboo there is a fungi, this fungi is sensitive to ultrasound," Chen said.

So far, others in the research community are wary of possible side effects because the particles don't break down and can disrupt functions in other parts of the body. However, Chen is optimistic that continued tests will demonstrate the strategy to be safe.

"We didn't do a systematic study yet for the toxicity. But what we're thinking about is, this particle is a natural product, it probably will deposit in the body," Chen explained. "What are the side effects? We'll need to wait and see. We did the mice study [and] it was okay."

If animal trials continue to be successful, testing the treatment on humans could begin as early as this fall.

However, due to the lengthy approval process, Chen estimates widespread use taking about six to ten years.

The application of Chen's gene delivery particles is not limited to cancer alone. Magnetic forces can be used to pull the M-nanodarts, carrying specific

genes, into the nuclei of modified stem cells. They can be grown in a lab for later transplant into a patient.

Diseases such as hepatitis, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and cystic fibrosis could possibly all be treated with the tiny particles.



BEAU DESAULNIERS

PARTICLE POWER Dr Jie Chen hopes to target diseases with his M-nanodots.

"The University of Alberta has a long track record of private-sector donors—corporate and alumni—giving back."

DOUG NELSON
CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

"In November of 2006, the campaign goal was raised to \$500 million because we'd exceeded the \$310 million, and we [...] set an ambitious target to finish by the end of calendar 2008 to hit this \$500 million," he added.

Approximately 90 000 donors from 81 countries contributed to Campaign 2008, with about 40 per cent support coming from individuals—mostly University of Alberta alumni—40 per cent from corporate donations, and an additional 20 per cent from foundations.

Among the larger donations were a \$10 million gift from Imperial Oil, \$7 million from EnCana, and \$7 million from U of A grad Daryl Katz, owner of the Edmonton Oilers and Rexall pharmacies.

Former University Chancellor Eric Newell and his wife Kathy also donated \$1 million towards the campaign in September, officially pushing the total above the revised goal, with their decision to fund a new aboriginal gathering place on campus.

PLEASE SEE CAMPAIGN • PAGE 3

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Pretty, odd

Take a leap into drag culture with a couple of performers who have walked a mile in their heels.

FEATURE, PAGE 10-11



Folkin' Around

Tim Baker of Hey Rosetta! discusses the band's love affair with punctuation

A&E, PAGE 13

That's all, folks

Well, not quite. Watch the newsstands next Tuesday for a sophisticated and gentlemanly surprise. Our four-issue summer publishing schedule will also begin on 14 May. Thanks to all our readers and volunteers this year!

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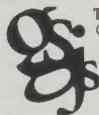
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plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in
a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna,
Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's
sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that
way." The Gateway's games of choice are Civilization II
and Resident Evil 5.

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Lockwood, Kati Kovacs, Marie Gojmerac, Ryan Shippelt,
and last + most epic, the amazing grand slam master
David Johnston.

NEWS BRIEFS

**OBESITY SYMPOSIUM UTILIZES
COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BY U OF A
NUTRITION STUDENTS**Obesity and the issues surrounding the
condition were tackled by University of
Alberta fourth-year nutrition students
on Tuesday afternoon in Dinwoodie
Lounge as they presented their poster-
viewing event and symposium, "Obesity:
Why the Weight?"A collaborative effort between the
research of Nutrition 401 students and
the planning and organizational work
of the Nutrition 440 class, the event
allowed students to explore several areas
of research with the help of advisors."We put a lot of work into the poster-
viewing event and symposium. It's kind of nice to have
this event as part of 440 and bring it all
together at the end," explained Jennifer
Clary, one of this year's event organizers."We're all finishing up our degrees
and it's just a really nice way to finish up
and show the work we've been doing."This year marks the event's fourth
anniversary, and Clary noted that each
year, both the event itself and student
enrollment in Nutrition 401 have grown
significantly.Stephanie Schwindt, a Nutrition 401
student, focused her research on an eval-
uation of bone health in individuals who
are undergoing islet transplantation."I knew nothing about islet transplan-
tation before starting this project, so it's
been really great to learn more about
such a new, novel treatment. I've also
had really fantastic advisors who just
shared their knowledge with me," she
said of the work she began in the fall.Following the poster presentation, a
series of speakers took the stage at the
Myer Horowitz Theatre, including Dr
Wendy Wolfe from Cornell Universityand Dr Mark Tremblay from the
University of Ottawa. The recruitment
of speakers, along with the fundrais-
ing and event promotion were spear-
headed by various committees.Planning aside, Clary just hoped that
on the day of the event, the students
who dropped by were able to take
something away from the experience."We just want them to see the great
work that students on campus are doing
and just learn a little bit [...] come out and
have fun, see what we're doing, and pick
up some educational material," she said.

—Kirsten Goruk, Deputy News Editor

**MEC E PROJECT OFFERS REAL
HANDS-ON DESIGN EXPERIENCE**Robots were unveiled Monday in the
Mechanical Engineering Building as the
students of the MEC E 260 class took
their theoretical design work to a whole
new level.Every year, the winter semester class
caps off their experience with a
mechanical build project that simulates
an industry device. This year, instructor
Cagri Ayranci decided to pay homage
to Canada's logging industry by having
teams of students construct miniature
log-transportation vehicles.The project is intended to let students
gain first-hand knowledge of col-
laboration, problem solving, and seeing
a design through to completion—an
opportunity not always afforded by the
Mechanical Engineering department."Normally the students only do the
technical part of the design; they do the
design, but they do not build it," Ayranci
noted. "Here we do the design and we
evaluate the difference between the
theoretical approach and the practical
approach—something that is going to
be very helpful when they're working as
engineers."Simulation training for the students is
one of the primary focuses of the course.

CYRIL BALBITT

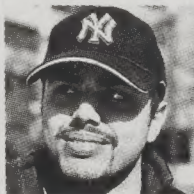
MAN WITH A MIC Dr Keith Sharkey gives an overview of Tuesday's symposium.Representatives from the logging indus-
try were on hand to see the students in
action and look for innovative ideas.The vehicles were all built from the
same basic kit of materials provided to
each of the 23 teams. Their task involved
manoeuvring their device across a
small field with diminutive logs in tow
while competing for glory and cash
awards—not to mention the prestigious
American Association of Engineers'
Shop Awards. It's not all about fame and
fortune, however, as the tests will also
determine 30 per cent of the students'
grades for the course.

"It's all hands on," said student Chris

Dudicz. "I knew even as a kid I liked to
tinker with things and now I get to build
mini-robots."Dudicz and his colleagues admit that
they put easily over 100 man-hours into
the construction of their contraption. But
he and his teammates are happy and
proud of the effort they've put into their
device."I think it's amazing," said Ayranci,
who is now in his second year of teach-
ing the course."I know when the students get out of
university, this is one of the courses they'll
remember, even after ten, 20 years."

—David Johnston, News Staff

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Conal Pierce and Pete Yee**Riphay
Al-Hussein**
Business III**Marcia Fuller**
Extension I**Vlad Uritsky**
Science III**Jossalyn Frost**
Science I**Jagerbomb.** [A Jagerbomb?] A lot of
Jagerbombs. [For everyone, or just for
yourself?] Everyone gets a Jagerbomb.I think I'd lower the cost of how much we
have to pay. Lower tuitions, definitely.Probably like, little trains to go between
every building. [Trains for people?] Yeah,
people trains.I would lower tuition because it's way too
much—or textbook prices. I don't know
how you'd do that, but something along
those lines.

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New Dean of Pharmacy to work towards faculty advancement

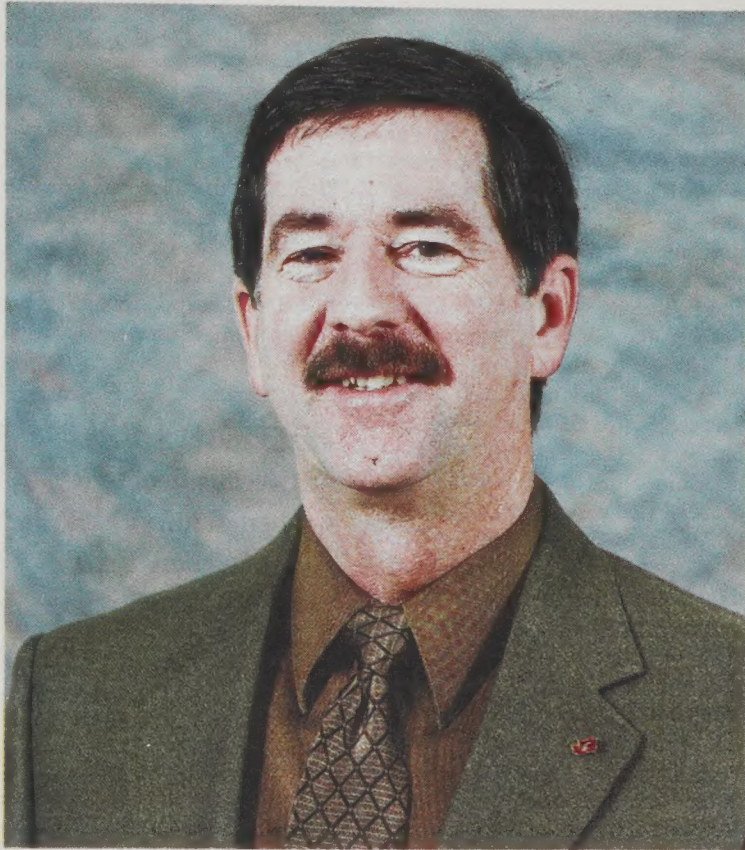
KIRSTEN GORUK
Deputy News Editor

After being sought out for the position of Dean of Pharmacy at the University of Alberta, Dr James Kehrer has accepted a five-year term which will continue his trend of moving progressively further north.

"I'm actually pretty excited about it; my wife is too [...] We just keep heading north. My brother-in-law said that we're moving north at an alarming rate and he intends to give us letters to deliver to Santa personally this year," Kehrer said.

Kehrer is currently Dean of the College of Pharmacy at Washington State University, but since accepting his post at the U of A, he's started to look more closely at the institution and what interests him about it.

"What appealed to me about the University of Alberta was the momentum they have for the future at the moment [...] I don't live that far from the border, but I didn't pay that much attention to the University of Alberta, but once I started exploring it I realized I should have paid more attention. It's a wonderful university," he said.



SUPPLIED

NEW IN TOWN Dr James Kehrer will begin his deanship on 1 August.

blue and just got me really excited," he explained.

Kehrer feels that his time at Washington State has prepared him for his new job here in Edmonton, which will begin on 1 August.

"My four years of experience as the dean here at Washington State have helped me, I think, develop a pretty good ability to create an environment for others to be successful in. That's really the goal of any dean, is to do things that help others be successful. I've had my success, and that's not what I'm going [to the U of A] for," he said.

Instead of personal success, he hopes to continue to build on what he calls a solid background that will enable further growth for the rest of the faculty.

"I'm going to help lay the groundwork, which has already been laid—the previous dean has done a marvelous job—but then to take that ground work and help advance it to the next level in terms of research and pharmacy practice," Kehrer noted.

With those goals in mind, Kehrer looks forward the most to working with the current staff and students as they bring together their plans for the future.

"I think it's just getting to know a new group of faculty who have a cohesiveness and a vision of moving forward and helping to refine that vision [...] New deans [bring] new ideas and they don't have any preconceived notions about what can or can't happen. So you can work together to accomplish some great things," he said.

New scholarships, chairs part of campaign

CAMPAIGN • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Smaller contributions even came from three young children who donated their birthday money—\$300 each—to the Gilbert Chair in Medical Education in honour of their late grandfather, who was the namesake of the position.

The proceeds will go towards 1114 new scholarships and awards, 50 new

endowed chairs, eight endowed professorships, and 13 new facilities to open up teaching and research space. Already, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and the Mactaggart Art Collection are examples of projects that have come about as a result of donor funding.

Despite the well over \$500-million boost coming in alongside the still

rising costs of education facing undergraduate students, Nelson pointed out that the money raised will go towards improving the student experience.

"The biggest number of what's happened out of this has been increasing student support, so the more than 1100 new awards and bursaries, as a result of the campaign, really speaks to the University's commitment to increasing support for students, and tells a really compelling story, I think, about how alumni want to give back and support current students," he said.

Nelson also expressed his gratitude to the donors, especially alumni, who came together from all over the world to influence the future direction of the university and its growth.

"The University of Alberta has a long track record of private sector donors—corporate and alumni—giving back. And with an ambitious plan for the University, the campaign was really a way for alumni to play a role in helping to position the University to achieve those plans," he explained.

The University raised roughly \$107.5 million in the 2008–09 fiscal year, and expects to take in a similar amount of fundraising on an annual basis in the upcoming years.



LUCAS WAGNER

RAKING IN THE CASH Doug Nelson explains that the University came close to doubling anticipated donations in its fundraising for Campaign 2008.

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Powerplant



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Thursday

Come pay your respects this Thursday, April 2nd at R.A.T.T.

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2. the state of being awesome

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If you strive to be as rad as possible (or as possimpible), you should write for Gateway News. We've wrapped up our meeting schedule for this year, but we'll be back soon with more fun and excitement in the summer months. If you're interested in exploring this epicentre of awesomeness, drop us a line at newsies@gateway.ualberta.ca and we'll set you up with more information.

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Study indicates stereotypes may influence student performance

DEMMI CONNOLLY
News Writer

According to a recent study conducted out of Stanford University and the University of Waterloo, students negatively affected by stereotypes are more likely to underperform and see fluctuations in their GPAs.

In the research, which surveyed approximately 19 000 students from five countries, Greg Walton, an assistant professor in psychology at Stanford University, and Steven Spencer, a professor of psychology at the University of Waterloo, determined that negative racial and gender-based stereotypes can affect a student's academic performance.

"We tested whether women and minorities and other people from stereotype groups actually performed better with men in non-minority conditions that reduced stereotype threats when they had the very same level of past performance," Walton said.

The two researchers concluded that neutralizing the psychological threat of stereotyped conditions leads stereotyped students to perform better than non-stereotyped students with comparable levels of past performance.

"We found in all of these cases that there's an overall affect that women in minorities do better than men in non-minorities in these conditions, and the fact that they do better is evidence that their prior performance

underestimated their true ability and their potential that they had," said Walton.

Walton pointed to an example of women's test scores to explain the findings.

"It suggests that a woman's score on the SAT math test for instance, or in many other situations, actually underestimates real math ability or math potential in an environment that is not psychologically threatening," Walton said.

"We found [...] there's an overall affect that women in minorities do better than men in non-minorities in these conditions."

GREG WALTON
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

In order to better understand the issues fueling their research, Walton and Spencer thought it was important to identify where the influence of a stereotype stems from.

"People who are targeted by negative intellectual stereotypes may be worried that if they're performing in an environment where those stereotypes are relevant that they could, [...] if they were to perform poorly, they

would inadvertently confirm the truth of that stereotype in the minds of other people," explained Walton.

"What we wanted to know was whether that affected or translated to the real world."

According to Walton, part of the problem is the fact that stereotypes are present in the world and people are aware of them even if they don't believe or endorse them. In order for people to achieve their full potential, he explained, one must work towards disproving stereotypes.

"There's sort of a toolbox of different strategies that institutions, schools, and companies can use that would really unlock a lot of potential on the part of their students and their employees that might otherwise be hidden by these psychological threats," Walton said.

At the University of Alberta's Academic Support Centre, however, the stereotype threat goes unseen. Karen Kovach, Director of Learning Resources, says she hasn't noticed stereotypes affecting students who come into the centre, but she explained that it could be because of the context the centre works under.

"No, I don't see it, but that doesn't mean it isn't there [...]. It's kind of hard to tell from our point of view because we don't see them in a social context, we see them individually or in small groups, and usually that stereotype isn't sticking out like a sore thumb."

Investments in ABCP contribute to deficit

SCOTT FENWICK
News Staff

The University of Alberta is expected to post an \$84 million deficit for the 2008/09 fiscal year, following a \$50.3 million budgetary deficit in the previous fiscal year caused largely by holdings in an investment product that's been implicated in the global financial crisis.

Last year, the University invested \$169.7 million in asset-backed commercial paper (ABCP). By the end of the 2007/08 fiscal year, its value had fallen by \$41 million—24 per cent of its initial worth.

A bank that sells ABCP pools their outstanding loan accounts together and then sells the rights to collect loan payments from that pool. These rights are then marketed as investments.

The University's ability to profit from ABCP depended on borrowers' ability to pay back their debt. However, in August 2007, investors found that ABCP sold in Canada contained volatile American sub-prime mortgages. Borrowers defaulted, and the U of A lost millions of investment dollars in the process.

University Vice President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark, explained that the U of A relied on the same tool other ABCP investors used: credit ratings.

Ratings issued by credit rating agencies give investors an idea of how safe an investment is.

Clark noted that the U of A only bought ABCP under the two best ratings possible on the agencies' sliding scale, as per policy. However, as it turned out, credit agencies had inflated their ratings of ABCP.

"I think that every person looking back now says that [the agencies were] shoddy in how they did their job, but you didn't know that at the time,"

Clark said. "The nature of the system was such that investors should be able to rely on those kinds of things."

U of A accounting professor Karim Jamal questioned the administration's decision to invest in ABCP.

"This was a bad decision by the U of A to buy this kind of stuff," Jamal stated. "My guess would be that they didn't understand what they were buying."

"The quality of the [ABCP investment] depends on the actual quality of the underlying loans. When times get bad, most people can't pay."

According to Ron Ritter, Director and Treasurer of the University's Financial Services, said that verifying ratings wasn't possible.

"You would have had to do a heck of a lot of digging at the time, and you may or may not have got that information," he said. "There was a lack of transparency for the investor as to what was actually underlying [ABCP]."

Clark added that taking risks with University investments is needed for

meaningful returns. She noted that if the U of A put all of its investments into low-risk accounts, like Canada Savings Bonds, it would only mean a 0.5 per cent return.

Both Jamal and Clark agreed that University students and staff will feel little of the current deficit's direct impact, given that the U of A takes in over \$1 billion in revenues annually.

The University also expects a \$1 million surplus in 2009-10, but forecasts deficits afterwards due to expected reductions in provincial government transfers.

Clark said that faculties will bear the initial brunt of the U of A's financial troubles.

"We're hopeful that it won't be felt at the faculty level as much because they have some money saved that we think they'll be able to use," Clark said, noting that scholarships and bursaries to students are safe.

"And it's not just our budget that's problematic in postsecondary education in Alberta. It's every university."



ON THE TABLE Ron Ritter and Phyllis Clark explain the University's financials.

Ryerson considers renaming convicted graduate's award

AMANDA CUPIDO
The Eyeopener

TORONTO (CUP)—Ryerson alumnus Garth Drabinsky may have been convicted of fraud, but the University may keep giving out an award named after him.

Ryerson's history with Drabinsky dates back long before the scholarship was established. In 1987, he received a fellowship that eventually became an honorary doctorate once Ryerson received approval to grant graduate degrees in 1993.

On 25 March, Drabinsky and his business partner Myron Gottlieb were convicted of three counts of fraud and forgery to the sum of \$500 million. The two ran Livent Inc, a Toronto-based theatre company known for putting on musicals such as *Phantom of the Opera*.

In 1997, Ryerson distributed its first Garth H Drabinsky scholarship, which awards a second-year new media student roughly \$700.

The money initially invested to fund the award came from Cineplex Odeon, says Pamela Shanks, executive director of development for Ryerson University Advancement. The \$25 000 donation was a corporate gift in honour of Drabinsky, who was president of Cineplex at the time—meaning the money didn't

come from Livent.

"They were honouring him because he was young and successful," she said, adding that now that Drabinsky has been deemed guilty, the University is looking into changing the name of the award.

"As soon as somebody's name is in the news in a negative way, we have to assess if it's a problem," she said.

Adam Kahan, University Advancement's Vice President, is currently researching Gottlieb and Drabinsky's history, and will be looking to other universities to find a precedent for the case.

"We want to check out the original donors—who they were," he said.

But Don Snyder, Chair of Image Arts with the University, expressed that the potential benefit for students from the award might outweigh

the stigma around Drabinsky's image.

"Every year [this scholarship has] helped out a new media student," Snyder said.

"It was the first endowment for the new media program," he said, noting that the program appreciated Drabinsky's gift because of his experience in the entertainment industry.

But as an administrator, Snyder says he supports and respects the University's stance, whatever it may be.

"Speaking as a teacher, I always want to see students get as much financial support as they can," he said.

"As soon as somebody's name is in the news in a negative way, we have to assess if it's a problem."

PAMELA SHANKS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT
FOR RYERSON UNIVERSITY

U of W bans sale of bottled water

Referendum reveals 75 per cent of students favour health-motivated initiative

LOREDANA PERO
The Concordian

MONTREAL (CUP)—Last week, the University of Winnipeg became the first university in Canada to ban the sale of bottled water on its campus, and campuses in Montreal are taking steps to do the same.

The ban came after almost 75 per cent of students voted in favour during a recent referendum held by the University of Winnipeg Students' Association.

However, the ban is not yet being implemented, as the University has an insufficient number of water fountains on campus to serve all of its students.

Once implemented, it will include all containers from portable water bottles to the bigger gallon water containers.

Vinay Iyer, U of W Students' Association president, said that realistically speaking, water bottles should be out of sight by January 2010.

Though he considers the ban a success, some students have expressed disagreement with the new rule.

"They have a right to be angry, because they are just not informed," Iyer said.

Iyer explained that tap water is safer than bottled water because it does not boast the toxic elements found in the plastic used for water bottles.

While the U of W works on the logistics of implementing their ban, Tap Thirst, a Montreal-based advocacy group that lobbies against selling and consuming bottled water, is working with McGill and Concordia in hopes of eliminating bottled water on campuses at both universities.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: PETE YEE

BAN THE BOTTLE Plastic toxicity concerns abound in Montreal and Winnipeg.

According to a recent audit of the University's waste, Concordia University alone sees 1.2 million bottles of water go to waste on campus.

Getting the attention of the administration at Concordia hasn't been the problem, said Laura Beach, Tap Thirst's co-founder. The problem is their reluctance to follow through on the issue.

Another obstacle that anti-water-bottle advocates have to overcome, she explained, is how companies create and incorrect perception that bottled water is safer.

While city water is tested daily, bottling companies don't test their water as often.

Louise Hénault-Éthier, environmental co-coordinator with Sustainable Concordia, believes that water bottles

are unnecessary.

"The quality of tap water in Montreal is really high," she said. "Bringing your own refillable container will allow you to have fresh, clean water available to you whenever you like by simply refilling it at the water fountain."

The Students' Society of McGill University has already taken a step in banning bottle sales in its building.

"McGill is committed to sustainable operation," said Dennis Fortune, McGill's Sustainability Director. "We believe we should be encouraging tap water."

Hénault-Éthier also points to the high price of bottled water. Water is a free resource, she said. "We shouldn't need to purchase it."

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR OMBUDSERVICE

If you have failed a course you may be eligible to rewrite the final exam

In most circumstances if the course was failed, the final exam was worth 40% or more, and your GPA *inclusive* of the failed course is 2.0 or greater you may apply for reexamination. You must apply 10 days after the posting of results. *Re-examinations are not permitted for graduate students and some faculties' policies will differ. There is a fee for this service. See section 23.5.5 in the 2008-2009 Calendar.*

You may have the option to have your final exam reappraised

If you have good reasons to believe that the grade on your final exam is incorrect, or unfair you have the option to have your final exam reappraised. Requests for reappraisal are handled by the department in which the course is taught and must be received by **June 22**. *There is a fee for this service. See section 23.5.4 in the 2008-2009 Calendar.*

Don't cheat!

The sanctions for cheating are quite severe and could include a failing grade in the course, suspension, or even expulsion. Cheating does not just mean plagiarism or copying answers—even having an unauthorized blank piece of paper on your desk can be a violation of the Code of Student Behaviour. Know the rules *before* you write! **See section 30.3.2 in the Code of Student Behaviour.**

If you have missed a final exam due to incapacitating illness, severe domestic affliction, or other compelling reason (including religious conviction) you can apply to defer the exam

If you have missed the final exam and have compelling reasons you must submit your application for deferral, as well as any substantiating documents, to your faculty *within 2 working days of the missed exam*. If your absence is due to an incapacitating illness you must obtain and have your physician fill out the University of Alberta Medical Statement Form. Approval is not guaranteed and is at the discretion of the faculty. *There is a fee for deferred exams. See section 23.5.6 in the 2008-2009 Calendar.*

Grievances concerning grades should be dealt with as soon as possible

If you have a concern regarding your grades, or how they were calculated, you should first meet with the instructor to discuss your concerns. If you do not feel the problem was resolved you may bring the matter to the chair of the department, and ultimately to the faculty. This constitutes the informal process. There is a formal process beyond this to the Faculty Appeals Committee which is final and binding. All faculties maintain their own grade appeal guidelines and students are encouraged to obtain a copy of the policy as soon as possible. **See section 23.8.4 in the 2008-2009 Calendar.**

Don't let yourself get below a 2.0

If your GPA falls below 2.0 **you will be placed on academic probation or be required to withdraw from your Faculty.** You have the right to appeal this decision and there are three levels to which you may appeal. If you are required to withdraw, seek assistance from the Ombudservice to explore appeals or other options which could allow you to continue your program. **See section 23.6.2 in the 2008-2009 Calendar.**



Questions?

PHONE 780-492-4689

EMAIL ombuds@ualberta.ca

WEB www.ualberta.ca/ombuds

LOCATION 5-02 SUB

Goodbye Green and Gold brick road

DURING THE COURSE OF MY UNDERGRADUATE degree, I never felt any form of particular attachment to my alma mater. In fact, attending the University of Alberta has always been somewhat of a sore spot for me—a testament to my cowardice. Like many others before me, I decided against leaving home, taking what was available because it was safe, familiar.

I've been accused by family members of missing out on the "university experience," an intangible worldliness that comes from breathing non-native air and doing your own laundry. And I must admit that I agreed with them—it's hard to garner much growth from a university when you attend reluctantly, and leave as quickly as possible.

Attending the U of A ensured that I didn't leave the nest—in fact, I avoided the new and unfamiliar for the most part, surrounding myself in old compatriots and begrudgingly accepting new ones, insofar as they were as likeminded as myself. Together, we were a generation of personally stagnated drunks, the company of the comfortable.

As a result, I came to resent my decision, and the University by proxy—transferring my self-loathing elsewhere. But despite all my vinegar and vitriol, I can't fail to admit that my time here has been what I will forever look upon as some of the greatest and most naïve moments of my life.

It was here, and not elsewhere, that I learned through trial and tribulation who I truly was. Whether through the eye of sobriety or a thick haze of drunkenness, I have discovered who I am and who I wish to be.

It's unfortunate that like so many other things, I realized all this too late and in entirely too inappropriate a state. These revelations came to me not after poignant thought or self-reflection, but through liquor and self-deprecation. Perhaps though, only through making an ass of ourselves can we see who we truly are.

Back in September, I ran naked through Quad not because I was dared to or because I was fighting the establishment, but because I had never before done such a thing. Nudity, as I was raised, was frightening, strange, and abhorrent. The human body was not natural, but alien—foreign territory unfit for consumption by mortal minds. And so it was oddly liberating to sprint naked, with little thought to my own sense of personal decency, simply for the thrill of it, genitals flapping in the wind, the sound of one hand clapping.

And so I came to sit, quiet and alone in the darkness of a tree's shadow, save for the yellow glare of incandescent bulbs, the silent hum of buildings around me. It wasn't a beautiful sight—nothing but concrete lit by floodlights; the illumination of an uncaring design. But somehow, amidst the endless concrete slabs of education, I was able to finally see the beauty that had been here all along.

To see, with the utter simplicity of the buildings before me, what had been true for years: what I was so desperately seeking had already been found. Regardless of how my time was spent here, it has and continues to provide me with inspiration and stories, both good and bad, that have ultimately shaped who I am as a person. Despite my apathy, this institution has moulded me all the same, and whether I'd like to admit it or not, I'm glad for it.

To all of you who helped shape me over the last several years, no matter how big or small, I offer my thanks. And to the Students' Union, and everyone else that's been the target of my venom, no hard feelings.

CONAL PIERSE
Managing Editor

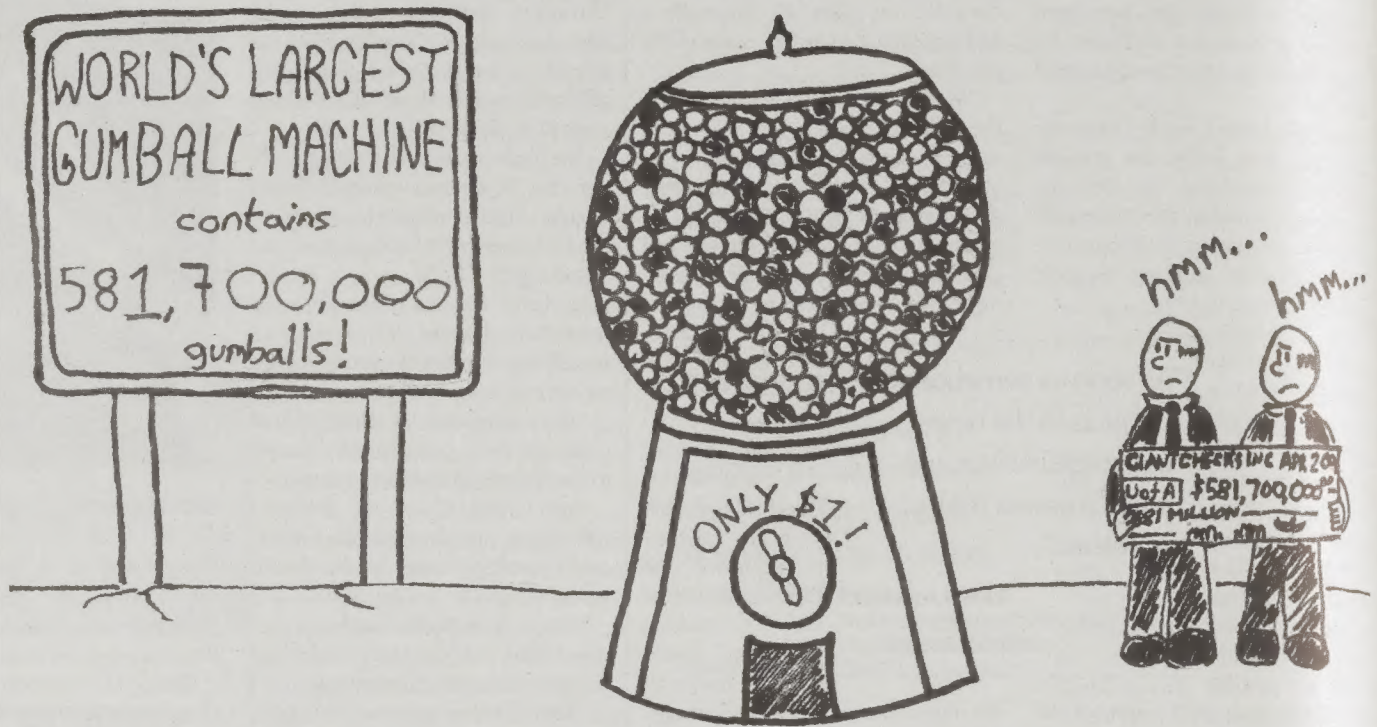
Whoa, I'm halfway there

WHILE I'M FAR TOO PROUD TO OFFER UP ANY sort of apology to those that we may have offended this year, I can offer some thanks to everyone—pals and antagonists alike—from whom I've learned some valuable lessons about newspapering during my first term as Editor-in-Chief.

In the timeless words of our generation, "I'll be back." See y'all next year.

Hopefully by then, I'll finally shut up about CASA.

MIKE KENDRICK
Editor-in-Chief



With their recent financial windfall, the University is facing some difficult budget decisions...

DAVID JOHNSTON

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Complete, total lack of letters shocks campus

Actually, this isn't a letter. It's a layout friendly way of explaining how the letters page works. Not something that would really require explanation, one would think. But one would be wrong.

One of the principle purposes of this paper is to serve as a forum for campus debate. This is mostly done through the letters page. People read something in the Gateway and write in a letter which hopefully gets published, thereby sparking a flurry of public debate.

As a rule, this has worked pretty well in the past. There have been some entertainingly lively arguments on these pages. We're happy and you're happy and everybody is happy. Happy happy happy.

There are, however, a few snags.

The Gateway isn't covered under the Code of Student Behaviour, which means we have considerable lassitude in what we can publish. On the other hand, this means we have no libel insurance. Nobody will cover us. This leads to what we can't print, affectionately called the big four. They are:

Racism
Sexism
Homophobia
Libel

The first three are mandated by the Gateway constitution, the fourth by the Criminal Code of Canada.

Now, strictly speaking, we can't print anything that is any of these things. Libel is the simplest. If someone gives us a letter that accuses someone of something that isn't true, it's libel and it's illegal and it's outta there. Period.

STEPHEN NOTLEY
5 September, 1991

And yet another view on the exact same thing

Sorry about the break there, but it looks better to break this up on the page. If you decided to skip the first part of this article-cum-letter, go back and check it out above.

So. Libel is out.

Now, the problem is with the other three, that is to say, racism, sexism, and homophobia.

Okay, yes, there are a number of things that we can discuss on these pages without ever straying near these topics. We can attack the SU for cutting SU records, the administration for cutting sections and the government for cutting funding without ever touching these sticky

areas. There is controversy galore to go around without mentioning these things.

Unfortunately, the issues of racism, sexism, and homophobia are probably the most pressing and heartfelt of most of the issues on campus. People are concerned about SU records; people are angry or scared about sexism.

It's our job here to serve as a forum for ideas and issues. It's our belief here that an issue can't be resolved if it isn't allowed to be discussed. Certainly we don't believe that we can resolve the problems of racism, sexism, and homophobia, but we believe that free discussion is absolutely necessary for any hope of resolution.

We're not saying that you should all get out and write the most racist thing you could possibly imagine just in the hopes that it'll appear on the pages of the Gateway. We just feel that to the widest possible scope, that if these things are to appear in the paper, they should appear on the letters page, in order that they may be discussed and countered rationally.

STEPHEN NOTLEY
5 September, 1991

Letters from the Archives is a semi-regular feature where the Gateway runs historical letters that we feel

are of particular importance—or are just really hilarious.

Now you can check out all the old-timey fun for yourself! Just go to thegatewayonline.ca and follow the links to the Gateway's digital archives. We've also got a poll and some other cool web stuff.

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via carrier owl or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

Stephen Notley was our Managing Editor in 1991, and has since achieved fame as the cartoonist behind "Bob the Angry Flower."

His words are still relevant today. Well, except for the bit about SU records. Back in his day, people still paid for music. And now we're autonomous, so our rules and bylaws have changed a bit.

Cody Civiero, Gateway Opinion Editor 2008-09, signing out.

Newspapers shouldn't stop presses

CODY CIVIERO



It's a tad "meta" for my tastes to lament the eminent demise of the newspaper industry (and the news media in general), but it feels like an appropriate topic as I finish up my editorial contract.

If these concerns have received an obnoxious amount of notice, it's because their scope and implications can't be overstated. We're witnessing the massacre of a trade that's fundamental to democracy. The Rocky Mountain News has folded, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer is now operating only as a crippled online version, the International Herald Tribune has been absorbed by the New York Times, and the fate of the Tuscon Citizen looks bleak. That's just for starters.

There's a general consensus among the wider population that newspapers have, ironically, failed miserably to adapt to the Information Age. On the surface, this appears to make sense. Print newspapers seem like an anachronistic fetish for a certain look and feel. It seems logical that modern technology would make the manufacture of paper, the resources and effort put into printing, and the exhaust spewed into our air from distribution, an obsolete, wasteful practice. But it's currently the only way to provide quality coverage.

Websites—the venue that most people view as the obvious solution—simply don't make enough money to fund a newsroom yet. The most notable reason for this is that there is massive competition for ad sales online. Other websites are able to generate a lot

"It seems logical that modern technology would make the manufacture of paper, the resources and effort put into printing, and the exhaust spewed into our air from distribution, an obsolete, wasteful practice. But it's currently the only way to provide quality coverage."

of traffic on a much smaller budget than news outlets require to operate. Another reason that the dynamic isn't likely to change is because online promotions have revealed exactly how ineffective advertising is. Online news isn't a revenue-generator now, and likely won't be in the future.

Conventional newspapers that have both print and online editions tend to bring in roughly 90 per cent of their income from the former. A study commissioned by ContentNext last year suggested that in order to sustain itself as an online-only publication, the NYT itself needs a whopping 1.3 billion page views per month—six times its current level. That's unquestionably not going to happen.

Subscription models aren't workable either. They drastically reduce web traffic and, by extension, the already unremarkable online ad revenue. Since some estimates have pegged the ad loss from a subscription revenue at about 90 per cent, the most that you could bring in subscription fees would be dwarfed even by web advert revenue, let alone what print brings in.

Unsurprising in a "harder, better, faster, stronger" era, television news, however, is flourishing. While it's reassuring that their revenues will allow them to sustain depth of coverage, it's a damn shame that the only economically viable medium is so inferior in so many ways.

A 1998 study indicated what seems obvious—that the increased amount of information presented in both visual

and verbal form tends to mask the actual news that the viewer is looking for. It's also passive and unengaging. Text-based news, be it in print or online form, requires the reader to actively participate, comes with less distractions, and allows the reader to scrutinize the information it presents, rather than quickly moving on to the next story. Not to mention that there's less emotional impact.

Then there's the most laughable source that some apologists will bring up as our saviours—the blogosphere. Bloggers like to scream "Jayson Blair!" whenever their "quality" is called into question, but it should be self-evident that they can't fill the gaps leftover from the degradation of the traditional media. They don't have the time or resources to provide as a hobby what people have been providing as a profession, and, in general, they don't have a philosophy regarding how they approach their work. More importantly, they usually don't create the news—they just comment on it.

People should give a damn about all of this. But I'm not going to end on a note of false hope. Even the people who have cared enough to pay moderate attention have embraced self-affirmation over the hard truth, and we deserve to deal with the self-perpetuating results. The answer from the industry has always been to cut staff, lower costs, turn three jobs into one, inevitably decrease the quality of coverage and, in turn, lose more readership. Congratulations—we all deserve this.

So long, farewell, it's been nice lying to you

PAUL KNOECHEL



"Smart lad, to slip betimes away from fields where glory does not stay [...]. Runners whom the race out ran, and the name died before the man."

Such words of wisdom strike me on this day. As I write this, my post-secondary career is winding down after six long, on-again-off-again years, I'm saying goodbye to the Gateway, and I'm receiving one hell of a blowjob.

For all of you trusting people out there, that was a lie.

While it's true that I am graduating, and that these pages will no longer factor prominently in my life, I'm not actually receiving fellatio at this time—my fellow computer lab users might not appreciate it. The truth is that I've never had a blowjob, for I don't believe in premarital sex.

That was also a lie. Try and keep up.

Truth be told, I lie indiscriminately when I write these poetic manuscripts. I think of truth as nothing but a hindrance when trying to make my points or failing in my attempts at humour. Some other lies that I have told in my tenure here at the Gateway include (but aren't limited to): attending a monkey knife fight, wanting to marry for money and not love, having an impressive sexual history, imbibing anything

more than alcohol or caffeine, taking issue with the development of sexual function medication, and believing the theory of evolution.

Some of that was also a lie. See? It's like I can't help but lie, even when I'm trying to come clean on the eve of my departure to the real world.

Truth be told, I lie indiscriminately when I write these poetic manuscripts.

To make up for the constant and ongoing deception, I shall provide one final service to all of you out there—I will share with you the power and danger of lying, and help you know when and how to do it better. I mean, that's why I started doing all of this writing in the first place: for you people out there.

If you missed that lie, you might want to start from the beginning and try and pick up on the theme that I'm shooting for. The reason that I write is more about my selfish ego feeding than helping whoever's bored enough to read this. And that's a partial truth.

I realize that I don't need to convince anyone about the utility of lying, or the ease of doing it through a medium such as this. I've never had to answer for my deception—it's hard to challenge what I say as my lies never involve facts (thanks, Editor), and it's a fast and easy way to exemplify a point that I'm trying to make. However, people are always more cautious when they're lying face-to-face, even though it doesn't need to

be this way. All you have to remember is to lie with conviction and leave yourself an out with a second lie in case your first one fails. Make this about a false and embarrassing fact, and you'll rarely get called out.

For those of you keeping track, there were significant true portions in those lies.

There are, of course, situations where you should refrain from lying. Family and loved ones deserve better than deception, and if you want these important relationships to survive, total honesty is the way you're going to need to go about it.

That was actually fairly true, but not totally. In any relationship that you're going to have, it's going to involve lies. Sometimes they're white lies, sometimes they're lies of omission, sometimes they're temporary, but they're still lies and unfortunately, they're occasionally needed. Don't beat yourself up over them if your intentions are still good and the issue is minor.

Finally, don't lie to yourself. Like others, my lies have spread through every facet of my life, and the most damning have always been ones that I've told myself. By lying to myself about what I thought a relationship was or should be, I was entangled in one terrible for me in so many ways. By lying to myself about what made me happy, I nearly sank into a dark depression. And by lying to myself about what I needed to do to stay in school and succeed, I was kicked out and very nearly didn't make it back in. Lies to yourself aren't worth it.

And that's the truth.

"You must stay drunk on writing so reality cannot destroy you."

— Ray Bradbury

GATEWAY OPINION

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Ground the City Centre Airport



MIKE
KENDRICK

The debate over Edmonton's future development has reached sky-high levels: this weekend, the City will be holding a public forum to discuss the fate of the City Centre Airport (CCA). A coalition of business types have banded together to keep the CCA afloat, but grassroots organizations representing a variety of interests within the Edmonton community are arguing that the 144 acres of land should be re-evaluated and put to more fiscally and socially responsible uses.

The most contentious aspect of the debate revolves around the city's economy. Supporters of the CCA argue that Edmonton would lose out on a number of business opportunities as we force business travelers south to the International Airport, where they'd have to waste more time and money commuting into the downtown core. It's a vital part of the city's commercial strength, they say, and brings in a tremendous amount of business that would otherwise be directed elsewhere—likely Calgary. On top of this, the airport also plays host to the (arguably profitable) Edmonton Indy, as well as emergency medivac and military services. But all of these could just as easily be relocated with little to no impact on current operations.

Those in favour of closing the airport have proposed a multitude of redevelopment strategies for the land, such as

residential and commercial zoning that would bring in millions in new tax revenues. According to a June 2008 report from the City, only \$890 000 was collected in associated taxes from the CCA (though the Alberta Enterprise Group claims that it indirectly generates nearly \$400 million annually). Under the proposed redevelopment, the City could stand to collect a potential \$95 million in direct property tax, not to mention a projected \$500 million in "big picture" profits from land sales and further development of current downtown properties, which are now restricted to 150 metres in height by air safety regulations. Without the CCA, everywhere from Manulife Place to Bell Tower could expand upwards rather than outwards in a city that's already under the strain of urban sprawl.

Under the proposed redevelopment, the City could stand to collect a potential \$95 million in direct property tax.

These are all projections and proposals, however, which may sound good on paper, but will be difficult to convince City Council to budge on without more concrete numbers. On top of this, one of the most pressing questions regarding the CCA's fate has been a simple matter of jurisdiction. By closing it and redirecting traffic to the International, the City runs into the issue of splitting administration and revenues with Leduc County, where the International lies. Unlike the CCA, where the City of Edmonton receives

full tax revenue on its land claims, Edmonton and Leduc County have a revenue-sharing agreement with the International, cutting into any future profits the airport might generate with the increased traffic.

Ideally, I'm sure Edmonton would love to finally annex its southern neighbor and no longer have to deal with jurisdiction problems in surrounding municipalities, but this opens an entirely new debate that ties right back into the urban sprawl that the anti-CCA camp is trying so hard to avoid in the first place. Urban expansion and conglomeration of this scale is inevitable, just as we've seen in Toronto, Vancouver, and even Winnipeg, but until the City provides a more sustainable growth plan, it's a dilemma that's likely to be a hurdle to those in favour of redeveloping the CCA's lands. You can't have your airplane peanuts and eat them too.

So where does that leave the fate of the airport? Proposed commercial zoning is certain to bring in major revenues for the City—very few disagree on that point. But until Council stops dragging its feet on the rest of its public works projects, the most important of which being the south LRT expansion that would reduce the cost of International Airport commuting, we're stuck in a relative developmental deadlock. Someone has to make the first move, and the onus is on the City to lay out the road map.

While it might not be feasible to dynamite the runway tomorrow, it's becoming increasingly evident that Edmonton can squeeze a lot more out of the CCA's land in the next decade if we stop sitting on our hands and folding to the will of vociferous CEOs. Who really watches the Indy, anyway?

Don't cling to the culture of your parents



ANDREW
NEWBORN

"If you want to celebrate the circumstances under which you were raised, embrace multiculturalism. I just ask that you first consider what your culture actually is and what those circumstances actually were, rather than blindly attaching yourself to your one-quarter-Irish roots."

Canada is famously and perpetually confused about its own cultural identity. Some have tried to stitch one together out of hockey and beer, while others attempt to find identities by clinging to the traditions of their long-dead relatives. What no one seems to realize is that these things just don't mean anything. There's no logical reason to take pride in the actions of others, or to place yourself in a community with which you have no meaningful associations.

Being the citizen of a country doesn't require much. It usually depends upon where you're born, and isn't even under your own control. That's it. There's no particular diet that you need to adhere to, no passion for any particular sport that you need to proclaim, and no kind of music that you need to love. All of that, as well as what languages you speak and what religion, you follow, if any, are decided by the circumstances under which you were raised and your own personal choices, and none of it is genetic.

The actions of people now dead can have major consequences on the lives of the living, but their accomplishments aren't anyone else's, and being related to them doesn't warrant dressing up like them and dancing the

way that they danced at the Heritage Festival. This kind of behaviour is nothing more than an attempt for people to grant themselves identities that they can no longer claim to have.

I get that sometimes ancestor's lives were hard, and sometimes it was for unfortunate historical reasons. Those problems can also often persist in some capacity in the present—such as the case of racism. In those situations, I encourage everyone to work to overcome those societal problems. However, claiming the toil of your relatives as a source of personal pride is simply meaningless—you weren't there, and you didn't experience it.

If you want to celebrate the circumstances under which you were raised, embrace multiculturalism. I just ask that you first consider what your culture actually is and what those circumstances actually were, rather than blindly attaching yourself to your one-quarter-Irish roots, throwing down some green beer on St Patrick's Day, and calling yourself Irish.

If you were born in Canada, you're Canadian. You don't have to be proud of that, you don't have to embrace it in any capacity, and you don't have to use it as an identity either: that's just what it says on your passport. Everything else is a figment of your imagination.

No matter how much you might wish you were your Chinese grandfather, or your relatives in China who are currently contributing to the rise of the Chinese economy, you aren't those people.

You have no association with these places other than the fact that your parents (or grandparents, or great-grandparents) happen to have lived there and then moved here. These places currently have very little to do with your life, other than under a broader social scope and in the roles that you've forced them to play.

I've heard it claimed that it's important to remember where you come from. I, like everyone else, came out of a womb. My ancestors lived on farms and used ploughs. It's likely that yours did too—ploughs are a part of history and they deserve to be studied and remembered, but they hardly need to be dragged out once a year and driven around the back yard in celebration of the ploughers who came before.

Don't be afraid to enjoy any culture. I've ensconced my life in Japanese video games and American movies, because those are the things that I enjoy. Rather than arbitrarily selecting a few habits from the people you're related to, consider attempting some hobbies you genuinely enjoy.

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Blame it all on the motherboard

DAVID
JOHNSTON



So, I guess that I should talk about the fact that, as of 1 May, I'm the new Opinion Editor. I think that the campus is split into two camps; those for whom that news is cheer-worthy, and the much larger camp who, upon reading that sentence, are preparing their pitchforks and torches for a raid on SUB, the likes of which has not been seen since the Parisians stormed the Bastille, furious that Marie Antoinette had just been named *rédac-teur d'opinion de la France*.

But in all seriousness, I took on the mantle for one reason and one reason only: technological upgrades. Specifically, one of the perks of the job is that I would be provided with 24-hour access to a really, really nice and powerful computer. And it's got a big screen, a CD drive, and a lambskin keyboard and everything. And there's even a comfy padded chair! And it's mine for a year! Mine!

I really need this, since, to be honest, I'm completely technology-impaired. My current personal computer is a lime-green first-generation iMac that attempts to run two or three operating systems at once. This occasionally overworks it to a point where the hard drive basically gets pissed off and stomps away in a huff, refusing to save or print anything until I apologize profusely, let it cool down, and bring it a cold beer and a bouquet of roses. My computer is very temperamental. It's like that old chestnut where

"My dear, darling mother, bless her soul, has barely entered into the era of CD-ROMs. This is a woman who, if we hadn't forcibly ripped it out of her hands, would still be using an SE-30—that's one of those old boxy Macs the size and weight of a toaster oven, and it's almost as good a word-processor as one."

dogs begin to resemble their masters, except with memory cards.

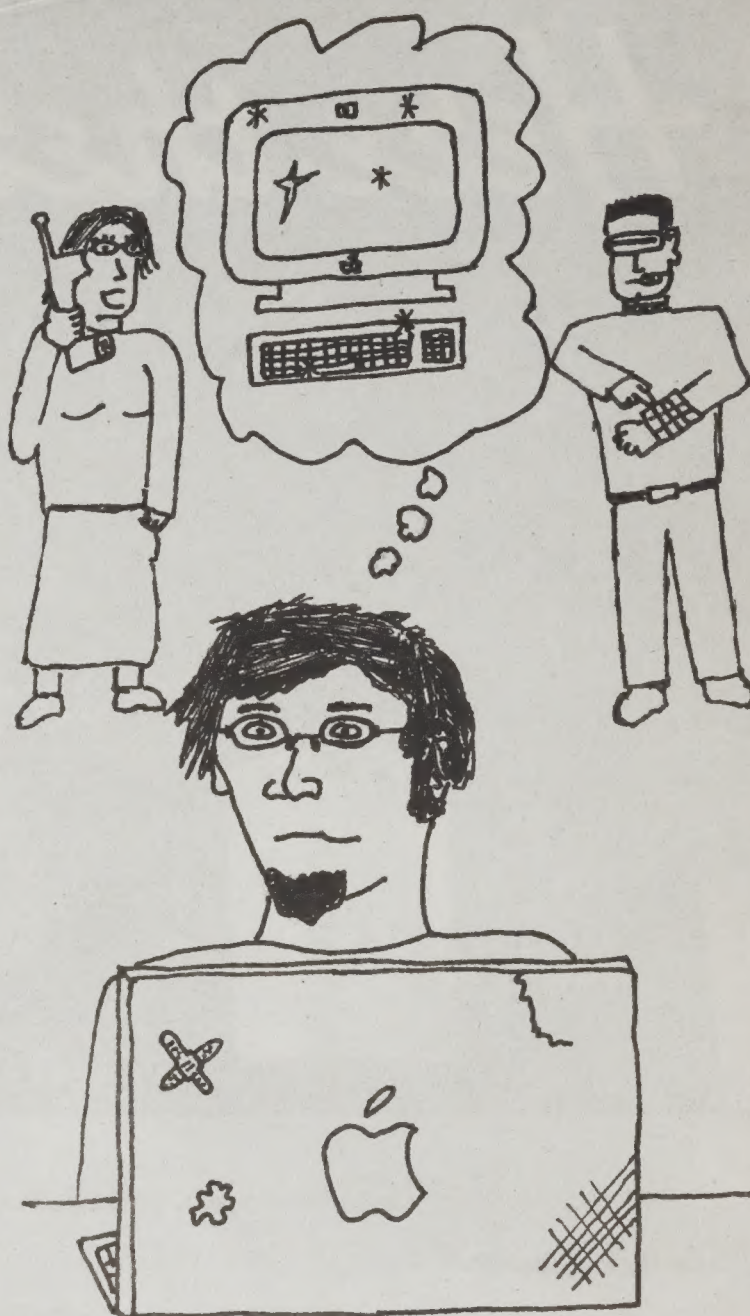
This has led me to the conclusion that my technology impairment is placed squarely on the shoulders of one individual: my mother. My dear, darling mother, bless her soul, has barely entered into the era of CD-ROMs. This is a woman who, if we hadn't forcibly ripped it out of her hands, would still be using an SE-30—that's one of those old boxy Macs the size and weight of a toaster oven, and it's almost as good a word-processor as one. Marie Antoinette used a more advanced computer. Neanderthals look at an SE-30 and think that it's hopelessly retro. When single-celled life oozed out of the first primordial pools, it took one look at—well, you get the joke. Nevertheless, my mother, who is a fully certified Alberta medical practitioner, I might add, believed that she could keep her entire life and medical storage organized on a device that still thinks Pong is revolutionary.

My father, on the other hand, is a computer consultant who is considering getting a wire uplink installed in his right hand so that he can have Internet updates that much faster. His Palm Pilot occupies a higher place in the family pecking order than I do. (It certainly got a better position in the family Christmas portrait.) There's such a vast technological gulf between the two of them, in fact,

that I can't quite conceive of how my mother and father ever actually met—not that there couldn't be a romantic connection, but I just can't come up with a situation where they'd be in the same room at any given time. Unless they both responded to a call for virus control, and wound up in a classic mistaken identity scenario. I think I've seen that sitcom.

And I'm the fruit of their labours. I get my practical technology lessons from my mother, and the desire to be mechanically up-to-date and online from my father. These two aspects are completely insoluble, and cause within me the need to constantly desire and covet all technology, none of which I understand. I'm two things at once. I am living proof of Schrödinger's theorem, except that instead of cats, I use mice. Computer mice. Let me just pause for a couple seconds after that joke so anyone who wants to can relight their torch and borrow a pitchfork from a friend. Everyone good? Good.

So it's always embarrassing to be working in collaboration with people who manipulate high-speed internet devices and digital cameras like they've been doing it since their birth. But soon I will join their ranks, and I'm looking forward next year to finally using a word processor manufactured during the Bush administration. So what button do I press to make the toast come out?



CODY CIVIERO

Halftones? We don't need no stinkin' halftones.

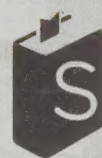
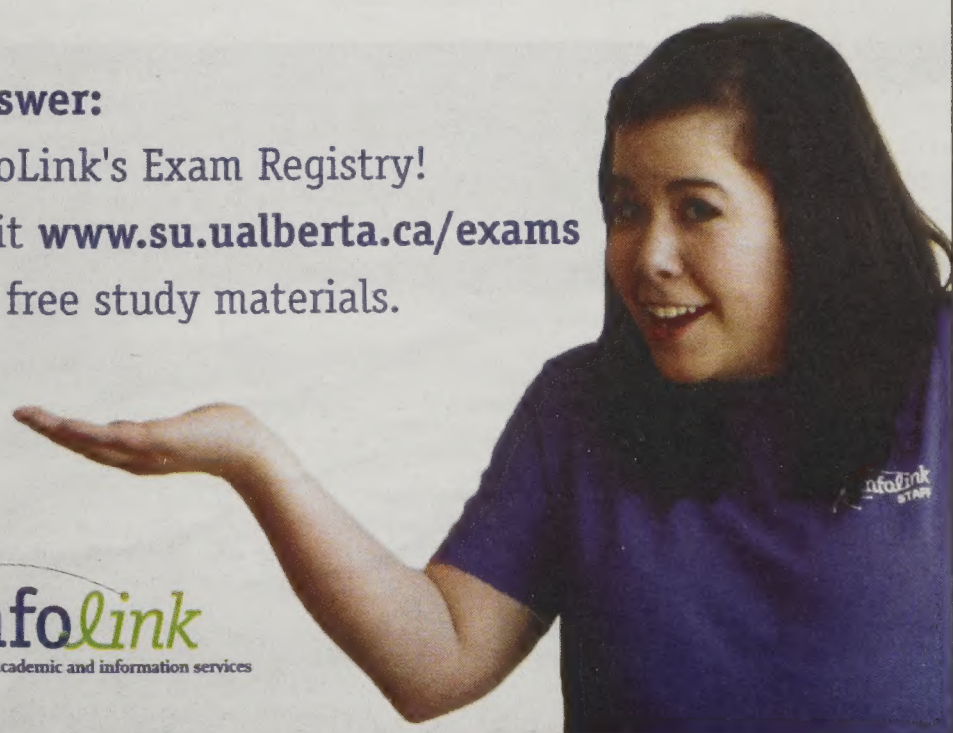
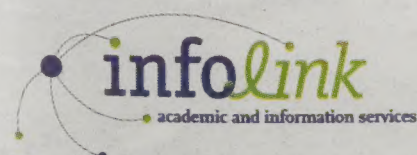
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Here there be Draggin'



"It's a good thing I was born a girl, otherwise I'd be a drag queen."

— Dolly Parton

It's become a catch-all term, it seems, for the notion of cross-gender dressing, no matter the subject—and no matter the gender. It's been in-fashion, out-of-fashion, taboo, socially accepted, and everything in between—sometimes all at the same time. It's been portrayed in movies, television, books, theatre, and the midnight show at your friendly neighbourhood GLBQT bar. And it's never quite explained—as a concept drag is fleeting, ephemeral, translucent, and often covered in sequins.



Drag may appear to be a simple act of putting on the opposite gender's clothes, but below the surface, it's so much more than that. The clothes, the makeup, the tucks, and socks, the wigs, and powders, and shoes, the prosthetics, and practices, and props aside, drag is far more about the attitude. Anyone can wear a dress or put on pants, but becoming a drag king or queen requires an abandonment of one's own gender, if only for a little while.

Whether or not one agrees with drag, it seems to have occupied a permanent fixture in the culture and subculture of today's world. The intentions and the intrigue behind it, however, are often unexplored—and possibly more fascinating than the glitz and glamour which have become the hallmarks and symbols for a cross-section of the human race that's so much more than any one definition.

"Do you know the difference?"

Generally: drag queens are gay men, transvestites are straight men."

—Darrin Hagen

She's A Handsome Gentleman!

Interview With A King

"I think being a drag king is easier than being a drag queen; we already wear pants. It's not that hard to dress like a man. I think the hardest thing for me was the walk."

Such is the experience of Silpi Das, fourth-year University BA student who got into doing drag when she performed an amateur drag show with a group of friends last year for a performance festival on campus.

"We were called Alberta Prime Rib," she laughs, "Alberta Beef is the province's famous Drag King troupe, so we were the junior version. We did a dance to 'Heterosexual Man' by Odds and we made fun of a lot of people. Oh, and a banana exploded in [my friend] Vanessa's pants—definitely was not intentional."

But it wasn't long afterwards that Das picked up the male mantle again, when she played a male character during her work at Jubilations dinner theatre and when she entered (and won) a Drag Wars contest here in Edmonton.

"I got really into it over the summer, and I had a friend—a queen who did the Drag Wars a lot—who told me 'You should do it!' and I was like 'I'm not gay—is it alright for me to be a straight girl doing a drag king?' I mean, as someone who's not really part of the queer community, I felt a bit like I was trying to appropriate what

Written by David Johnston

Photography by Pete Yee



Drag Moments in Pop Culture

The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert (1994)

Directed by Stephen Elliot

The Priscilla of the title is actually a bus, carrying a transsexual (Terence Stamp) and two drag queens (Hugo Weaving and Guy Pearce) across small-town Australia en route to a series of drag shows—an unconventional road trip dramedy to the same degree that the Grand Canyon is a hole. Heartfelt, transformational, and winner of that year's Academy Award in Costume Design, the film remains to many an accurate portrayal of drag culture by showing the sheer breadth and diversity existing therein.

Connie and Carla (2004)

Directed by Michael Lambeck

As Reviewed by Darrin Hagen

"So the woman from *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* (Nia Vardalos) and her friend (Toni Collette) are hiding from the mafia, so they go undercover as a couple of drag queens, and men teach them how to drag. There's a scene at the end where she has to prove to David Duchovny that she's actually a girl, so she takes off her top and shows her boobs to the audience. The whole audience gasps and then they show a close-up of one drag queen throwing up. How offensive is that? A drag queen is so heterophobic that she's going to throw up when she sees a pair of boobs. And the creators went into the drag community of Vancouver where the movie was shot and they took these powerful queens that are so on top of their game and fearless and put them in this movie where they're treated as comic fodder and little homophobic jokes [...] Ugh."

RuPaul's Drag Race (2009)

Currently airing on Much More Music

Picture a drag version of *America's Next Top Model* and you won't be far off. International drag sensation RuPaul is looking for the successor to her throne. To find her, she scours the country for nine drag-testants and puts them through a series of challenges designed to test their diva mettle, ranging from a series of Oprah-inspired interviews and readings, to makeup and makeovers, to performance. Every episode ends with each queen doing her best drag walk for the panel, and the bottom two contestants lip-synching for their lives. The show is fabulously silly, and functions as a brilliant parody of the reality television genre. But more than that, though, it's a funny heartwarming series that takes itself simultaneously seriously and not-seriously; a terrific step forward for modern culture to embrace the seemings of drag while at the same time laughing at the lighter aspects.

Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Putting aside his period convention of using only male actors to play female roles, his plays are rife with cross-dressing and gender-bending, laying some basic framework for the performance of drag. From heroines like *As You Like It's* Rosalind or *Twelfth Night's* Viola disguising themselves as men for safety, to meta-actor Flute in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* playing the role of a young tragic female, ('Nay, faith, let me not play a woman; I have a beard coming!') Shakespeare's characters constantly play with appearance vs reality. And what better way to confuse the two than to open up the possibility of drag?

they did," she notes.

For Das, the discovery that she could try this inherently performative and exhibitionist behavior without feeling the need to change her orientation was both a boost and a bit of a surprise. It wasn't entirely fun and games—there were a few interesting aspects of societal behavior and experiences that unravelled for her as she descended into the beginning stages of masculinity.

"It's still a patriarchal society. It seems being a man is the default, but you have to make yourself into a woman. So if you're a man and you don't take care of yourself physically, you just throw on clothes and go through your life, then that's accepted. But for a woman to be considered attractive, [she] has to go through all these regiments of beauty. It's a pain to shave your legs, and pluck your eyebrows, and have the right hairstyle, and buy the right clothes, and buy a new wardrobe when the fashion changes."

Das' discovery of the sheer extremes of the performance art was also a new aspect for her.

"You're not playing an average guy; you're playing the most masculine man there ever was. When I play a man, I'm playing that guy in the bar who's getting into fights and just won't shut up."

Along with that came the expectations about the character she was putting on; she found she could get away with saying so much more when she was a man as opposed to a woman, as long as the necessary attitude was present. In fact, it was something she experienced early on in the contest setting.

"All the other kings were like really butch lesbians, really standoff-ish. And all the queens were very friendly and fabulous. It's a really interesting subculture; honestly I don't really know how you get into it."

Her experiences in becoming part of the community are not atypical, however—through a friend, as a joke, or for fun are all common enough reasons for the amateur pursuit of drag.

And Das still does consider herself an amateur on the subject. Her experience and work with the process have waned a bit in the previous few months, as she returned to more traditional gender theatrical routes for awhile. However, her experiences with the culture have still left her with a deep interest in the culture and the artform—and a few insights on the king and queen aspects.

"It's weird—a woman dressed as a man you might just mistake for a man. But a man dressed as a woman is so much more distinctive. Drag queens are like a very different kind of art."

Dude Looks Like A Lady!

Interview With A Queen

"You have to be free enough to let go of everything you've been taught about being a man. You have to let it go, because if you hold onto any of that shit, it's going to ruin the performance and the drag look. You can't walk like a man; if you're not willing to celebrate it, you're never going to make that transition. I'd say 80 per cent of it is something that you either are or aren't—it can't be taught."

If there's a foremost drag authority in Edmonton, it's undoubtedly Darrin Hagen. Frontman of the Guys in Disguise theatre company, winner of four Elizabeth Sterling awards, writer and performer in, among others, *The Edmonton Queen: Not a Riverboat Story* and *Tornado Magnet*, and a constant fixture in the city's drag culture for the last two and a half decades, Hagen's resumé is as storied as his subject matter.

"There's no way of saying what drag is because every time I meet a drag queen, she's got some schtick I haven't seen before."

—Darrin Hagen

"I'm very lucky, because if I'd done what I do ten years earlier, there wouldn't have been a place for it, and ten years later it would have been passé. We really struck at the right time," he observes. Guys in Disguise formed in 1987 as a group of men from the club Flashback performing in a Fringe production that expanded into a two-and-a-half-hour theatrical extravaganza, complete with a full drag show in the middle. They sold out every performance, to little surprise.

"It adapts effortlessly; drag is made for stage—that's what it is. For me, drag doesn't exist off the stage. And I know it does, in the real world, but that's a different kind of drag. I mean, drag is theatrical—the whole concept of shifting from one gender to the other, it's all about costume. Without an audience, is there a drag queen?" A pause. "If a drag queen falls down in a bar and nobody hears her, is she still there?"

Joking aside, Hagen has truly embraced the pageantry aspects of the field. "It was never about doing it at home in my closet and watching TV. It was about getting it out there where people could see me in that costume and the effect that it had on people. Even if you're not on stage, there's a theatricality of just ... just walking into a room."

Hagen and the rest of the Guys continued in their original vein for a few years, but eventually felt the calling to move away from the cabaret-style of shows in favour of more mainstream theatre—maintaining their personalities and stylings naturally, of course. Hagen's personal turning point came with the rise of *The Edmonton Queen*.

"Once you step onstage with your own voice and your own story," he admits, "there's no going back."

"Nowadays I think the world's view of drag has become much more educated; I think it's a much more celebrated thing now than it used to be. I can barely get arrested in this town in a dress now; I walk down the street of the Fringe in drag nowadays and nobody even blinks."

Hagen goes on to explain how, despite his admittance that there's still an element of surprise in the portrayals, drag has moved away from using "shock" as its primary rationale. For some performers, including him, there's less of a need to rationalize the need for drag—akin to a musical theatre performer not needing to rationalize the need to burst into song. Drag simply is.

"There's no way to ever say 'drag is this' or 'drag is that,'" Hagen continues. "Every queen is different; every queen's an artist. There's no way of saying what drag is because every time I meet a drag queen she's got some schtick I haven't seen before, whether it's lip-synch, whether it's live, or whether it's the look."

The ever-shifting subculture of drag, then, will always have a new surprise or direction to travel in. Hagen maintains that there are aspects associated with the culture still evolving—and probably always will. "I think our whole concept of what's straight and what's gay is outdated, and binary, and too rigid. Even the drag queens are having our problems with it. Ultimately we know it's much more fluid than that. It's something that moves and shifts through your life."

Still, there are a few certainties that Hagen can rely on.

"There's a centre of gravity thing that must be genetic, because some men never learn how to walk in heels. No matter how often you show them, you can't make it happen."



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Parodying the adventures, misadventures, and scandalous sexual escapades of Samantha, Carrie, Miranda, and Charlotte, *Sexy Gals in the City* features four saucy city girls who are all ready to swear off men forever.

But, in true sitcom fashion, all four find themselves enamoured with the same man, questioning whether or not they can remain loyal to their female friendship clause, "chicks before dicks." The action unfolds in the form of a musical spoof set to power ballads and love songs from the '70s and '80s, which, coupled with the girls' heated conquests to land a man, provides three times the daily recommended dose of chuckles and estrogen.



Marianas Trench

With Shiloh and Carly Rae Jepsen

Saturday, 4 April at 8pm

Starlite Room (10030-102 St)

\$15 at ticketmaster.ca

These pop-punk princes from Vancouver are seriously deep. Or at least, they'd like you to think so. Marianas Trench borrows their band name from the eponymous groove in the Earth's crust that marks the deepest point in the ocean, and coincidentally, a spot where there is some major bump-and-grind action between tectonic plates.

In their single "Shake Tramp" off of their second album *Masterpiece Theatre*, frontman and vocalist Josh Ramsay sings that he'll "slap you like a bitch and you'll take it like a whore," insinuating that he might not be the kind of guy you want to bring home to meet your parents, but that doesn't mean you can't still go to their show and toss your skivvies at him and have a good time.

Provincials Archives of Alberta 24th Annual Film night

Friday, 17 April at 7pm and 9:30pm

Metro Cinema (9828-101A Ave)

\$10 Adults, \$8 Students at the door

Each year, the Provincial Archives of Alberta crack open their film vault and dig out some treasured, obscure gem to screen for nostalgic older generations and curious younger generations. This year's feature from 1958 *Challenge* features a dapper and fresh-faced Jack Nicholson who plays Jim Evans, a young man torn between wanting to dedicate his life to being a monk or pursuing a crush on a cute blonde classmate from high school.

The film was originally produced by the Order of the Franciscan Friars as a recruitment aid. No word on how many strapping young lads decided to devote their lives to the brotherhood after viewing the movie, but I can say with certainty that Jack Nicholson wasn't one of them. Perhaps he couldn't "handle the truth."

SARAH STEAD

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Hey Rosetta! punctuates their musicality

musicpreview

Hey Rosetta!

With Dan Mangan

Friday, 3 April 2009 at 8 pm

Starlite Room (10030-102 St)

\$12 advance at ticketmaster.ca, \$15 at the door

GWYNETH DUNSFORD
Arts & Entertainment Writer

One wouldn't expect punctuation to be at the forefront of a burgeoning indie band's preoccupations. However, as Tim Baker explains, if your band is named Hey Rosetta!, punctuation becomes a prominent concern.

"For a while, we were very adamant about [our] exclamation point—at least in spirit. Lyrically, [we were] very exclamatory," Baker explains. "I'm not a stickler for [the exclamation point]. But it becomes a nuisance when you use additional punctuation, like a possessive S on the end of 'Hey Rosetta!' Often people don't know what to do with the apostrophe. It can be messy, but I'm not that worried about it; we are going to hang on to the exclamation point. [Perhaps] we can get louder and louder, [using] more instruments and [earning] more exclamation points."

"Exclamatory" is an apt descriptor for Hey Rosetta!'s densely arranged, instrumental production. Fronted by Baker, they comprise a six-member ensemble whose sheer volume augments their music's complexity. "Epic" is another descriptor that Baker bandies about to portray the group. Though the poet Homer would hardly approve of this designation, Baker does not balk at this grandiose adjective.

"There's a lot of gear and we have eight guitars. It's a bit much, but we carry it all ourselves. Also, we have piano, cellos, and violins, and organs. That usually comes with us [on tour] [...] but there are obvious things that we miss, like horns and woodwinds. Especially Romesh [Thavanathan, cellist], and I want to have two arms a lot of the time because we are all such sound junkies. Obviously we have limitations, but we try our best and people say we still sound pretty epic."

Despite their self-recognized shortcomings, Hey Rosetta! is garnering a growing reputation as vigorous up-and-comers. Recently sweeping the East Coast Music Awards and the Canadian Independent Music Awards, they earned Best Album and Favourite Recording respectively. Considering these successes, bet-makers should take note: Hey Rosetta! is generating buzz for the Polaris Prize in 2009. Indeed, their album *Into your Lungs (and around in your heart and on through your blood)* just made the cut-off date to be eligible for next year's prize, which is considered the most illustrious award in Canadian music.

"We try not to focus too much on critical acclaim, [but] it's real nice to get critical watershed of more fans," Baker says. "I love the Polaris Prize. I think it's a really excellent institution that's been created. I always love checking out who's nominated because they are usually my favourite bands [who you] have to respect in terms of musicianship and vision. I would be completely delighted to be on the list."

As any album with such an extensive title as their latest work shows, Baker is considerably emotive when it comes to writing songs. In fact, on the phone from his childhood home in St John's, Newfoundland, Baker sounds positively weepy. But Baker audibly brightens when discussing the intimate interactions of the music

community in his home town.

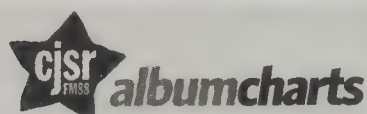
"It was actually pretty funny. We were trying to get Hawksley [Workman] to produce our album and we had the dates set [for recording]. Then at the last minute, we were pushed off and Great Big Sea swept in. And they took [up his time] for a month. But it was all in good fun; because we know all [of Great Big Sea], who are a great band. But I can't really say that they paved the way [for Newfoundland and Labrador musicians]. We sort of look up to them in that regard."

Rather than hinting at the commencement of a musical turf-war, Baker concedes that any feuding with Great Big Sea was all in jest. While acknowledging their role as prominent Newfoundland and Labrador musicians, Baker still allows for his own musical innovation and any similarities between Great Big Sea's *Fortune's Favour* and *Into your Lungs* is purely incidental.

"Any similarity [between] *Into your Lungs* and their [album] is extremely unlikely [because the] songs are so vastly different," Baker attests. "We had everything written and ready before Hawksley came on the scene. So he was more a producer of sound, a getter of takes, and a motivator of fine-tuning the sound."

Regardless, Hey Rosetta still falls on the mercy of music directors to gain an audience for their music. According to Baker, getting air-play is pivotal to garnering any acclaim.

"[Canadian content stations] help to spread the vast distances of Canada, the United States, and the world. Their role is huge in spreading the word in giving you press. [Getting airplay on] CBC is similar to getting critical success in a way. To get the ear of the programmers and the personalities of CBC is a pretty sweet thing because you've got the right people listening to you across the country."



FOR THE WEEK ENDING
TUESDAY, 31 MARCH

- 1. SHOUT OUT OUT OUT OUT**
Reintegration Time
(Normals Welcome)
- 2. JULIE DOIRON**
I Can Wonder What You Did With Your Day
(Endearing)
- 3. SLEEPY SUN**
Embrace
(All Tomorrow's Parties)
- 4. GREAT LAKE SWIMMERS**
Lost Channels
(Nettwerk)
- 5. BONNIE PRINCE BILLY**
Beware
(Drag City)
- 6. DDMMYYYY**
Black Square
(We Are Busy Bodies)
- 7. THE PAINS OF BEING PURE AT HEART**
The Pains of Being Pure At Heart
(Slumberland)
- 8. PROPAGANDHI**
Supporting Caste
(Smallman)
- 9. THE PUBLIC LIBRARY**
It Never Snows Around Here
(Independent)
- 10. SAY HI**
Oohs and Aahs
(Barsuk)

Adventureland a scattered, tokey comedy with rides

filmreview

Adventureland

Directed by Greg Mottola
Starring Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart, and Ryan Reynolds
Opens Friday, 2 April

JONATHAN TAVES
Arts & Entertainment Staff

A bag full of joints is about all James Brennan (Jesse Eisenberg) receives in celebration of his college graduation. After his parents fall on difficult economic times, they're unable to fulfill their promise of a paid trip to Europe as a graduation present. James' best friend skips off to Europe anyways, leaving James with the sack of ganja and the promise of a deal on an apartment when the two move to New York in the fall for graduate school at Columbia.

The impending uncertainty of life after post-secondary graduation is the setup for *Adventureland*, this summertime romantic comedy set in 1987 Pittsburgh helmed by *Superbad* director Greg Mottola. Under-experienced but over-educated, James has trouble finding a summer job that he'll need to fulfill his fall plans.

He settles on the only job he can get—running the games booths at the local amusement park, Adventureland. The backdrop for the rest of the film is set, as James begins to learn the intricate details of the park's social order.

The romantic storyline is quick to surface, as fellow games operator Em (Kristin Stewart) eyes James from across the midway. Their first encounter occurs when she saves him from being knifed by testosterone-pumped hot heads, who seem to be the primary patron of amusement parks in *Adventureland's* version of 1987.

During one of James and Em's first dates, he plays the "vulnerable card" too soon, admitting



his persistent heartache after getting dumped from an eleven-day relationship. In this scene, he also admits his sexual inexperience with a particularly Michael Cera-inspired acting performance.

However, despite its simple premise, *Adventureland* isn't the typical comedic story of one sexually frustrated young man's quest to lose his virginity. A number of plot details rise through the marijuana smoke to change the movie's tone.

An odd love triangle forms when it's revealed that ride repairman Connell (Ryan Reynolds) is cheating on his wife with Em in an awkward affair often occurring in his mother's basement.

Serious subplots of varying importance such as this are scattered throughout the film, making it more than just *Superbad* a few years later in an amusement park. However, too much emphasis on character development disrupts the film's comedic focus. Issues such as James' dad's alcoholism, anti-Semitism, Connell's adultery, and

Em's toxic relationship with her stepmom since her real mom passed away are introduced, but never really resolved.

Despite these overtones, the film still provides enough laughs. Many come courtesy of the odd-ball and enthusiastic couple whose lives revolve around managing the park.

MADD certainly won't approve of *Adventureland's* constant portrayal of intoxicated operation of motor vehicles. But the film's uncertain, freewheeling atmosphere feels authentic, with '80s dance beats and Yo La Tengo's ethereal tunes working well together to capture the setting.

Adventureland is an amusing, satisfying, yet forgettable film. Nothing about its humour or storyline feels particularly original, but it's still worth a watch on a summer day where perhaps getting stoned and riding the bumper cars just isn't a viable option.

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Between a rock and a folk place for Deep Dark Woods

musicpreview

The Deep Dark Woods

With *The Wheat Pool and Red Ram*
Friday, 3 April at 8pm
The Pawn Shop (10551-82 Ave)
\$10 at the door

DAVID JOHNSTON
Entertainment Staff

"It seems to me that a lot of people will call anything with an acoustic guitar 'folk,' even though when you really strip it down, it has nothing to do with the genre," laughs Burke Barlowe, guitarist and vocalist of The Deep Dark Woods. "Take someone like Tom Petty—when you listen to it, you say 'this is rock music,' but if you strip the songs right down, his progressions are a lot folkier than, say, Ani DiFranco. I think it's all in the changes of the melodies more than in the instrumentation."

Clearly, Barlowe and his fellow Woodsians would be rather good consultants when it comes to classifying the genre. The Saskatoon band have been folkin' out since their formation in 2005, though three of them were involved even before that.

"We'd been playing in this hobby band for a while called goodwhatgood," he recalls. "It was more of a rock thing; we were all fans of Radiohead, so we kind of tried to do something in that vein." After replacing their frontman with Vancouver's Ryan Boldt, however, the boys found a new direction to take their music: folk rock with just a hint of country, which they hadn't necessarily been fans of beforehand.

"We're all into it now," he grins. "You know, a lot of people seem to go through a country/folk phase when they hit their early 20s, and I think that's what happened to most of us," Barlowe goes on to say that he believes the group's use of harmonies and multiple singing

voices are instrumental in distinguishing DDW from the rest of the folks out there.

The group draw their primary inspirations from American and English folk music, though there was a time when they pulled a bit more emphatically from other, less 'folky' sources. "Bob Dylan, the Birds ..." recalls Barlowe. With the release of their third album *Winter Hours* this spring, DDW have resettled into their niche. Their 2006 record *Hang Me, Oh Hang Me* was specifically unusual for the group in that it showed more of their rock side than the group had been known for.

"[*Winter Hours*] has been getting a lot of mixed reviews," he notes, "A lot of college-aged fans that really liked *Hang Me* have been saying 'this doesn't sound like them; it's too quiet, it sounds like they're all grown up.' At the same time, older reviewers are saying the album grows on you with every listen. I guess that's the trade-off you make when you make a quieter record."

"I've heard a lot of people say that the first couple listens, you don't really get it. After that, it becomes almost addictive. It's better than someone who likes it after the first time, and then shelves it after a couple more," he grins.

Still, Barlowe believes that the group's style is highly dependent on a number of factors—from which studio they record at to the current temperament of the group—and while the next step of the group is still up in the air, it's likely that they'll return to the roots that have.

"I don't see us straying too too far from folk," he admits. "We all appreciate good old rock and roll, and we've always had a couple songs with that potential on every record, but for right now it's just what works for us; when we arrange the songs, we don't really go in saying 'hey, let's make this country song again.' Maybe we'll evolve into something different, but it's not really a conscious thing." Here he pauses and laughs.

"Though personally, I'd like to do kind of a more rockin' record again."



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Culture 102 Exhibit #9: Steve Martin



Known in the '80s as a comic genius, and recently
starring in the *Pink Panther 2*, long-time banjoist Steve
Martin is finally hitting the stage at the *Grand Ole Opry*
to pluck the strings and rip it up on his banjo.

Gateway A&E is wondering what the hell happened.
Seriously, dude, you use to star in classics like *The Man
With Two Brains* and now you're... I give up.

Thanks for taking a journey with us this year through
the highs and lows of pop culture!

GATEWAY A&E:

Not drifting off into oblivion since 1910.

It's a mad, mad, mad, violent Mad World

This bloodbath succeeds at letting you paint the town red, crimson, and scarlet

filmreview

Mad World

Published by Sega
Developed by Platinum Games
Now available on Nintendo Wii

IAN PHILLIPCHUK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Ostensibly, *Mad World* is a game that's supposed to be rendered in black and white, but the colour you'll see most is blood red. Fountains of plasma spurt from midsections as backs break, erupt from necks impaled with street signs, and spray from chest wounds as hearts are ripped out and crushed. Make no mistake: this isn't a game that should get into the hands of minors—it's a gore-filled blast.

Clover Studios developed many unique and beloved games for the last generation of consoles, including *Okami*, *Viewtiful Joe*, and my personal favourite, *God Hand*, and the influence is clear. Most of the studio and almost all of the design staff moved to PlatinumGames, the developer of *Mad World*, and the wacky nature that pervaded most of Clover's games is well represented.

You play as Jack, an overly-muscled macho man with a mysterious past and a retractable chainsaw on his arm. For reasons unknown, the fictional Varrigan City has been cut off from mainland United States and turned into a murder-filled warzone. Throw in a pharmaceutical company, a secret squad of marines, and a mayor's daughter and you have a decent storyline that ultimately fails to hold much draw. After all, at the end of the day, gamers aren't playing to find out more about Jack—it's really all about the violence.

Mad World works for one reason—it allows you to paint the black-and-white world crimson. The game itself is a standard linear progression from hordes of baddies to minigames to minibosses to actual bosses, and this really works. The controls are tight

and responsive, and with the exception of a sometimes useless camera, it's straightforward to beat your enemies to death like the wastes of skin they are.

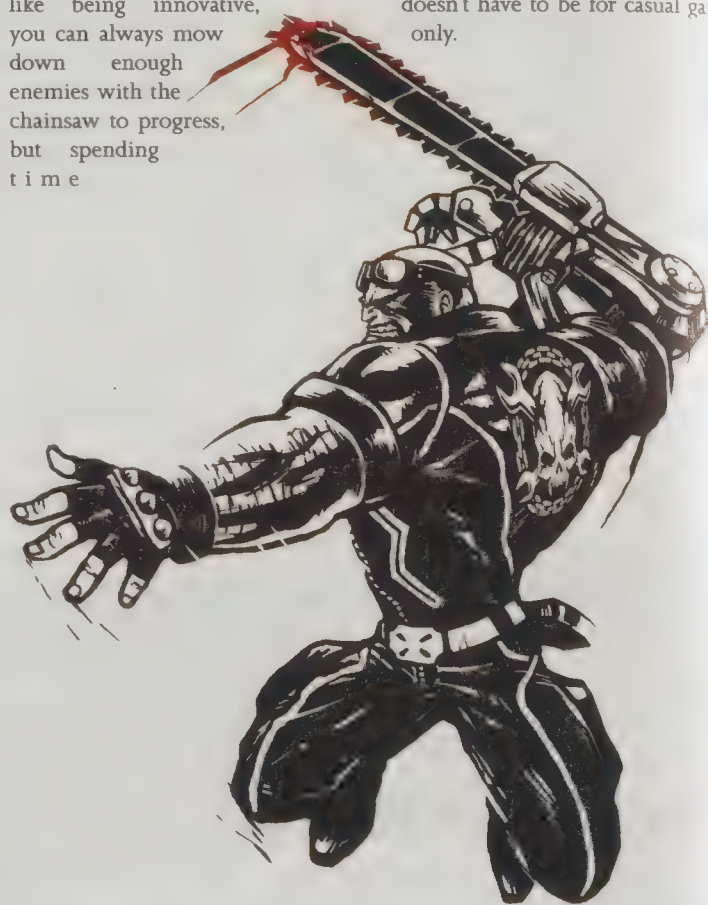
The fun really starts to shine through when you start to get creative with killing your enemies. Do you combo the spiked mohawk meat-bag onto the electric fence to both fry and impale him? Maybe you should go for style and skewer him ass-first on a rusty hunk of metal, then dump the carcass into a flaming oil drum. Or perhaps just drop him in front of the 'Rocket Reamer,' a bullet train festooned with spikes.

Each kill feels unique and fresh, and the combo system rewards creative players who chain together pain for the hapless saps that stand before them. Kills are awarded points based on how varied they are and how complex the combos, and those points unlock progression. If you don't feel like being innovative, you can always mow down enough enemies with the chainsaw to progress, but spending time

setting up combos is highly recommended for the gory, hilarious, and over-the-top kills and finishers.

Dotting the mayhem and carnage are some seriously grandiose boss fights. The first boss, the ironically named "Little Edie," towers above Jack and sets the stage for some amazing battles to come. The fights are suitably epic, and work very well as an outlet after a level of bashing goons into mush.

Despite the fun and mayhem *Mad World* offers, the game starts to wear out its welcome around the six hour mark, which is great because that's when the game ends. Lots of unlockables and weapons give the title solid replay value, and manages to be fun the second time around, which is a rarity. It's a brawler at heart and if dismembering scads of people sounds like your cup of tea, Platinum Games have definitely earned your money, if only because they proved the Wii doesn't have to be for casual gamers only.



culturaobscura

Burger King Flame

JOHN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Beef. It's what's for dinner, it's the other brown meat, and that old lady in those Wendy's commercials from the '80s was constantly inquiring about its location. Being as versatile as it is, it was only a matter of time before someone ventured into the lucrative market of meat-based colognes.

The geniuses in Burger King's marketing department have tapped the burger patty much like a maple tree to extract the sweet essence of greasy flame-broiled goodness from this bovine meat and harness it in a small perfume bottle. Burger King Flame is the result.

Marketed as a eau de boeuf, Flame is where "fire meets desire," according to their slogan. Apparently based on the scent of a hot, flame-grilled whopper, this novelty cologne comes in a sleek 5mL aluminum bottle with the Flame logo on the front, which is a heart that has been set ablaze. This also doubles as a useful reminder of how Burger

King food will affect your coronary arteries.

I have to hand it to Burger King's advertising department—they definitely know how get people's attention with absolutely ridiculous schemes. When I initially heard of Flame, I actually went out of my way to have friends obtain some while they were in New York, paying out of my own pocket solely for the chance to smell this greasy nectar. So simply for peaking my interest, they get points for creativity.

**Flame makes you smell
like you just sat in a
hickory smoke sauna
for 12 hours, then dried
yourself off with a beef
towel.**

But where they win for innovation, they lose hideously for scent. Open the bottle and you're immediately nauseated by the thick stench of what seems to be old-man scent that has been filtered through several layers of burger. Much like the aroma that follows your uncle who

covers himself from head to toe in a thin layer of Brut before venturing outdoors, Flame makes you smell like you just sat in a hickory smoke sauna for 12 hours, then dried yourself off with a beef towel.

Like any cologne, there are distinct first tones, midtones, and base tones. When first sprayed on, the initial hints of it don't smell much like any burger I've had; it's difficult to compare the scent to anything, but it's strong enough to induce a raging headache.

Ten minutes or so after applying, however, and the real beefiness starts to come through, like you've got a particularly bad case of the meatsweats that resulted from chasing that Marco's Wildcat with a beef burrito. Flame doesn't really have much of a basetone though; by the time you ask, "where's the beef?" you're already smelling terrible.

Other than as a pure novelty product, Burger King Flame is pretty useless. While it was only \$4.99 US—cheap compared to the majority of colognes—there still doesn't seem to be much point to owning it, other than to enjoy it ironically with your friends and the occasional prank where you spray it all over your friend's suit jacket before you go out to a club.



LEFT TO RIGHT: TONY VON RICHTER, PETE YEE, PETE YEE, KRISTINA SULATYCKI

RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE The top four teams—Western Ontario, Alberta, Calgary, and Laval—achieve the biggest results this year, and managed to separate themselves from the rest of the pack.

Dinos triumphant in Gateway rankings

NICK FROST

MATT PRETTY

Over the past seven months, athletes, coaches, and fans from Bona Vista to Vancouver Island have experienced the overwhelming highs, the bitter defeats, and everything in between that occurs during the CIS season. But now that it's all wrapped up, one question remains: which university came out on top in 2008/09?

Though this year's edition sees some shake-up towards the bottom of the pack, last year's top teams held true to their form and claimed the prime seats in the upper echelon of our list.



Simon Fraser
Clan 10
(55 points, Previous rank: 10)

The Burnaby-based school slides into our top-ten with most of their success coming in women's basketball and wrestling. Both the men's and women's sides saw success at wrestling nationals in February, claiming team gold and silver respectively. Then in March, for the fourth time in eight years, Simon Fraser claimed the national women's hoops title after defeating the Regina Cougars 68–62 in the final.



Saskatchewan
Huskies 9
(57.5 points, Previous rank: N/A)

Though the Dogs from Saskatoon didn't win any titles in '08/09, their efforts were nonetheless respectable across the board. Their best results came in wrestling, as the women's team managed to pull out a CIS bronze medal by one point over the Brock Badgers. Other individual awards keep Saskatchewan afloat in the rankings, like hockey's Steven DaSilva winning Rookie of the Year, and women's basketball head coach Lisa Thomaidis winning Coach of the Year.



Windsor
Lancers 8
(60.5 points, Previous rank: N/A)

There's no denying that the Windsor Lancers' strong point is track and field—both the men's and women's teams were able to run away with gold medals at the national championships (which they

hosted, to boot), as well as the Coach of the Year award to Dennis Fairall. Beyond that, however, the Lancers did find some success in women's basketball and cross-country; however, nothing that outshines their ability to run, jump, and throw.



Toronto
Varsity Blues 7
(78 points, Previous rank: N/A)

As was the case with Windsor, the Varsity Blues' ability to run has propelled them to a spot in our top-ten—only this time, it's the cross-country team earning the Ontario capital its stripes. Toronto scored big on the women's side, finishing in second place with a team silver and earning a near-sweep of the year end awards by claiming three out of the four—Athlete of the Year (Megan Brown), as well as Rookie of the Year and a community service award (both to Tamara Jewett).



UBC
Thunderbirds 6
(89.5 points, Previous rank: 2)

The T-birds enjoyed success all year long, everywhere from in the pool to on the hard-court. As expected, UBC was a force to be reckoned with in swimming—both the men's and women's sides swam their way to top-two finishes at nationals, led by Olympian Annamay Pierse, who set a new world record in the 200m breaststroke. Back on dry land, the men's basketball and women's volleyball teams displayed their skills on the court, as both teams made it to the CIS Championship game, with the latter emerging victorious.



Guelph
Gryphons 5
(90.5 points, Previous rank: 1)

The other big contender in cross-country this year was the Guelph Gryphons, who scored major points by claiming both the men's and women's titles at the national championship, as well as Coach of the Year (Dave Scott-Thomas) and Athlete of the Year (Matt Brunsting) on the men's side. These birds also came out flying in track and field, snapping up men's bronze and

a women's silver. Just off the podium, but still a major point-getter for our list, was field hockey, who fell short of a bronze by losing to UBC in the consolation final.



Laval
Rouge et Or T3
(112 points, Previous rank: 6)

As our first and only entrant from Quebec, the most obvious place to start with the Rouge et Or is football where, once again, they exerted their dominance. Known for being one of the strongest programs in the country, Laval ran roughshod over the Western Mustangs in the Vanier Cup 44–21, led by Hec Craighton Trophy winner Benoit Groulx and CIS most outstanding lineman Étienne Légaré. While staying on the subject of dominance, the men's volleyball team was one of two teams to finish the year undefeated in the regular season (the other being Alberta), which made for an interesting final match at the CIS Championships.



Alberta
Bears/Pandas T3
(112 points, Previous rank: 4)

More often than not this year, both the men's and women's squads at the U of A provided us with something to cheer about. The big success on the Golden Bears side this season was the triumphant undefeated season upheld by men's volleyball, who went 22–0 through to a gold medal performance on their home court. Also bringing riveting team performances was the unsuspecting silver-medallist Pandas field hockey squad, and Pandas basketball, who captured a bronze medal at the CIS Championships in Regina after what could easily be called an up-and-down season.



Western Ontario
Mustangs 2
(112.5 points, Previous rank: 5)

Moving up three positions this year to claim the first runner-up spot is this London, Ontario-based school that managed to get by on the strength of their numerous top-five team finishes. A surprise to advance as far as they did this year, the Mustangs' men's hockey team were the Cinderella story at the CIS Championships as they went on an improbable run to the finals, only to lose to the New Brunswick Varsity Reds. Less of a surprise, however, was the men's football team, who had a respectable season and put up a solid effort in the Vanier Cup against a Laval team that had way too much momentum to be stopped.



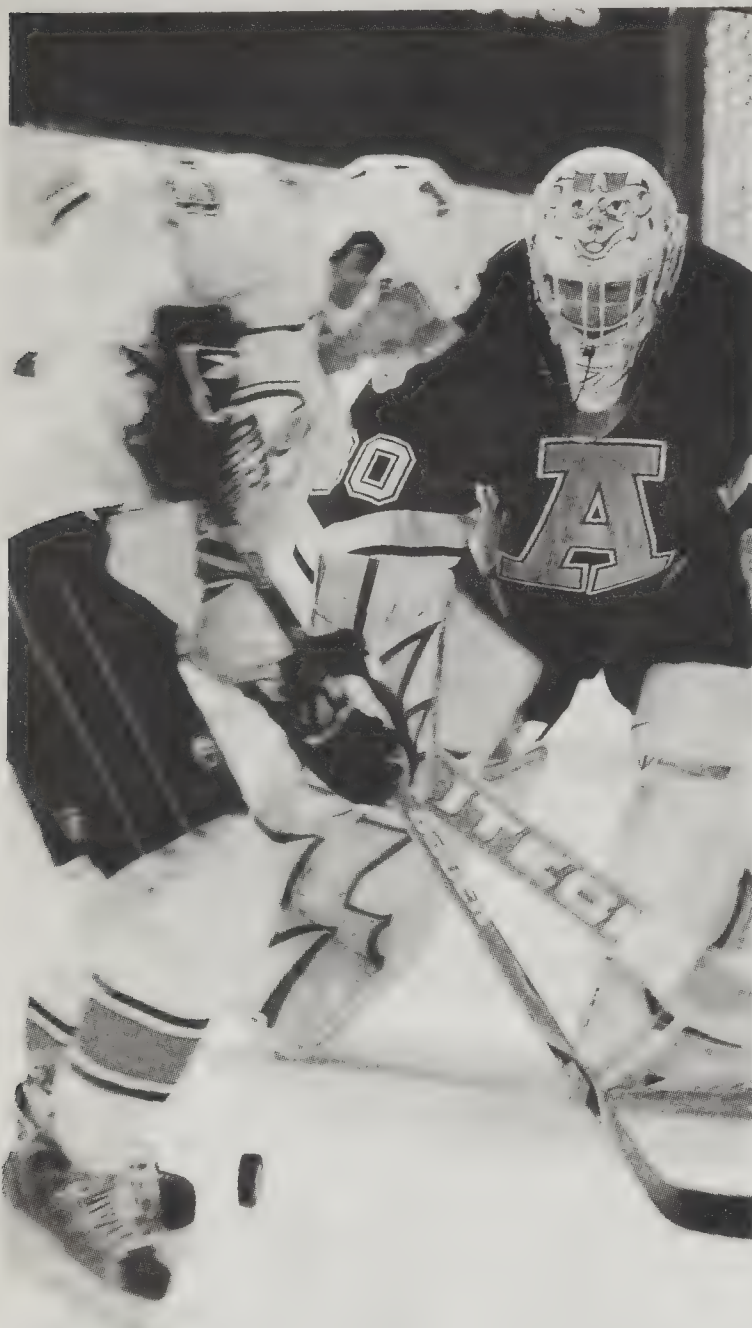
Calgary
Dinos 1
(136.5 points, Previous rank: 3)

While the Dinos are annually a contender for the top-five on this list, almost no one could've predicted at the start of the year that they would be head and shoulders above everybody else. The Dinos football team, who finished the 2008 campaign tied at 5–3 with Regina and Simon Fraser, went on a run all the way to the Uteck Bowl, where they were dismantled by the Laval Rouge et Or 59–10. Though the score might be a tad embarrassing, the same can't be said for a team that had its inconsistencies all year, yet still made it to where they did.

Also, though very much under the radar, the Dinos swim and wrestling teams contributed greatly to Calgary's athletic success this year, roping in team gold medals on the women's side. Credit also belongs to the silver-medallist women's volleyball team.

THE NUMBERS GAME

Wondering how each team on the list got their magic number? Here's the breakdown: a team's placing at nationals secured ten points for first place, nine for second, and so forth, down to one point for tenth place. In the event that ten teams were not in the national tournament (for example, in men's and women's hockey), CIS Top Ten rankings were used to place non-tournament teams down to the tenth position, in order to ensure that every sport handed out the same number of points. Individual performance-based awards for each sport (Coach of the Year, Athlete of the Year, etc) were awarded five points apiece, while merit-based awards (community service, Student-athlete of the Year) were awarded three points each. All points for the seven major sports with televised finals (men's and women's basketball, hockey, and volleyball, as well as football) were multiplied by 1.5.



FILE PHOTO: RYAN SHIPPELT

IF YOU CAN'T BEAT 'EM, STEAL FROM 'EM Rather than trying to defeat the U of A, the Oilers should be sitting in Dr Samarasekera's office taking notes.

Oilers need a lesson in rebuilding

If they want to be Top 16 by 2016, Edmonton should dare to discover a new GM



NICK FROST

Sports Commentary

To those who still have faith out there in Oil Country, pardon my pre-emptive cynicism, but: here we go again.

After dropping a 5-3 decision to the Anaheim Ducks (one of the other four teams chasing after the same playoff spot) in perhaps their most important game of the year two nights ago, it would appear that impatient fans of the Copper and Blue will once again be relegated to hopping on their second-favourite team's bandwagon in this year's Stanley Cup Playoffs. Though the fat lady has yet to officially interject on the matter, you can hear her in the back warming up her pipes.

If the last two off-seasons have been any indication, this summer will be met once again with belligerent fans calling for the respective heads of hockey operations President (and puppetmaster) Kevin Lowe and head coach Craig MacTavish, as well as a thorough teardown and overhaul of the current roster. While firing said individuals only works towards solving half the problem, I'd like to propose the other puzzle piece to the solution—if Daryl Katz is serious about building a winner, there is but one name that should be considered to inherit the reigns of this disenfranchised franchise: University of

Alberta President Indira Samarasekera.

But wait, you say—what can the president of an educational institution and someone with a doctorate in metallurgical engineering do that will help revamp an entire hockey team?

Well, for one, Indira has demonstrated that she can coordinate a full-scale rebuild somewhere along the lines of what Oilers fans are angrily requesting. In the past two months, four of the University's deans have either stepped down, or opted for greener pastures elsewhere—I blame Chris Pronger for making Edmonton such an undesirable market for deans. In the face of adversity, however, Dr Sammy (as I'm affectionately dubbing her) along with the U of A's scouting staff were able to successfully replace three of them, bringing in the new Dean of Medicine all the way from Manchester, and a new Dean of Law from the recent University Cup winners in New Brunswick (and God knows good defenders are hard to come by these days.)

The front office isn't the only area that can expect improvements with such keen scouting, either. Edmonton's prospect pool would move up to the next level with teams like the Detroit Red Wings and Philadelphia Flyers who are notorious for successful drafting. Indira's willingness to provide further and better funding for international and undergraduate students demonstrates that the Oilers, under her regime, would be willing to do whatever they could to acquire the best prospects abroad, and wouldn't be afraid to get them under contract

as soon as possible. Who knows? We might've had Swedish phenom Linus Omark under wraps months ago if Dr Sammy were running the show.

Most importantly, one thing the Edmonton Oilers have been lacking since 2006's Stanley Cup run is organization. Since then, the team has been a clusterfuck of line juggling, roster snuffing, and conflicted team chemistry, with no particular direction towards hockey's promised land. As we've all seen this year, Indira is committed to long-term goal setting, and using the time leading up to that point to accumulate the resources necessary to substantiate such bold claims. For all we know, the Oil could really benefit from a program to gradually get closer to the postseason over, say, the next seven years—hell, we could call it the "Top 16 by 2016." Or, if fans of the Copper and Blue aren't into long-term planning, Dr Sammy could always help the team tank into a better first-round position for next year's NHL Entry Draft (which we could, conversely, name the "Top 10 by 2010.")

The reason the Oilers have had such hit-or-miss success in the past five years is that they've caught a lot of lucky breaks—but those will only get you so far for so long. Everyone currently in charge of the Oilers—and by that, I mean the "old boys' club"—needs to be seriously educated on how to run a hockey team, because the current regime of mediocrity and half-assery isn't going to fly for too much longer. And, hey—what better way to teach someone a lesson than by throwing a doctor in the mix?

The PARAPHRASE Trap WHICH PASSAGES ARE PARAPHRASED CORRECTLY?

Original Text:

"Research has long pointed to the dramatic power of peer influence in adolescence and young adulthood, but what has not been adequately considered in previous research and prevention strategy is whether this peer influence comes simply from what other peers actually believe is the right thing to do and how they behave, or from what young people think their peers believe is right and how they think most others behave." (p. 8)

Source:

Perkins, H.W., Ed. (2003). *The Social norms approach to preventing school and college age substance abuse*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Paraphrases¹:

1. Research shows that young people are susceptible to peer pressure but it is unclear whether or not they actually know what their peers are thinking.
2. Perkins (2003) claims that, while research has shown that young people are heavily influenced by their peers, no one has looked into whether they know what their peers actually believe or whether they are behaving in ways they think would gain their peers' approval.
3. While we know that youth are dramatically influenced by their peers, research has not adequately considered where that influence comes from. Perkins (2003) points out that young people might know what their peers believe in terms of the right way to behave, but it is also possible that they are simply making an educated guess.

¹ These are to be used as examples only. Please refer to appropriate style guides for the citation style you require.

1. Unacceptable (good paraphrase but no citation)
2. Acceptable
3. Unacceptable (gives only partial credit)

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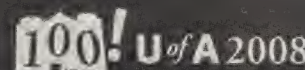
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FILE PHOTO: ZHENDONG LI

COMING OUT PARTY There's a good chance that Simeon Rottier (65) will be taken in the top-three of the CFL Draft.

Bears lineman Rottier sets sights on future, CFL Draft

MATT PRETTY
Sports Staff

When watching Golden Bears football this season, even the most diehard fans likely paid little attention to Simeon Rottier. After all, his line of work is at left tackle on the unheralded offensive line, protecting his quarterback from oncoming rushers—no glitz, no glamour, just a lot of hard work for very little credit.

Well, he's getting noticed now. The 6'6", 286 lb Westlock native has been rated as the top prospect in the upcoming CFL Canadian Draft, and though he still has one year of CIS eligibility remaining, the first-team All-Canadian and unanimous Canada West All-Star has the choice to turn pro for the 2009 season.

Last fall, in his third year with the Bears, Rottier was part of an offensive line that allowed only 13 sacks in eight games. Though Alberta didn't make the playoffs in 2008, Rottier's football season wasn't done in November. He was selected to play in the prestigious East-West Shrine Bowl, a gathering of over 80 elite prospects from across the United States and Canada, at the University of Houston on 17 January. Only two CIS players were invited—Rottier and Laval defensive tackle Étienne Légaré—which made the experience that much more significant.

"It was kind of neat going down [to Houston]," Rottier says. "I just felt like I had nothing to lose, and I was able to compete at a high level and play with those guys. It took a little bit to adjust

to the speed and the line play is just a little bit different [down there], but the Shrine game gave me a lot more confidence, and I know that I can play at a higher level."

Many people concentrate on physical aspects when they think about the offensive line, and Rottier isn't lacking in those areas—size, hands, foot speed, strength—but the man himself figures that his best attribute might just be the one between his ears. With only six years of football experience under his belt, he believes that his ability to learn is what sets him apart from the rest.

"It was kind of neat going down to Houston. I just felt like I had nothing to lose, and I was able to compete at a high level and play with those guys."

SIMEON ROTTIER
GOLDEN BEARS OFFENSIVE LINEMAN

"I think I learn on the fly well. I've always loved sports, and having played a lot of sports, I have a kind of mindset for the game," Rottier explains. "I think being a team player and putting other people first is important ... the offensive line is all about working well with who you're playing beside."

Of course, mindset is a hard quantity for pro scouts to measure. So

Rottier was invited to Toronto for the 2009 CFL Evaluation Camp from 6–8 March, and was again the only Alberta player to be selected. There, the eight CFL teams ran 50 draft prospects through a series of physical and speed drills, as well as interviews for comparison purposes. Though Rottier's drill scores weren't necessarily eye-popping, he felt good about his results.

"I felt like I did what I needed to do," notes Rottier. "I tested a lot better than I had previously and had made some improvements, which is what they wanted to see from me. It was a good experience, and they treated us really well down there. I got to do interviews with the teams and meet the coaches and it was kind of exciting just to [go through that] big job interview."

Even though he's expected to be a high first-round selection in the CFL Draft on 2 May, with a year of eligibility left, Rottier isn't closing any doors when it comes to the Golden Bears.

"I'm not sure [about this year]. I don't want to take for granted that I have the potential to be drafted high. My goal is to make a [CFL] team, and if that's the case, I won't be coming back, but I still have that option right now and it's good to have backup plans," Rottier says.

"I love playing for the Golden Bears and I like what they're doing—they're bringing in a lot of recruits and I think the team's really moving up. It would be good to play there again, but I definitely have my sights set on the next level."

On This Day in 1981:

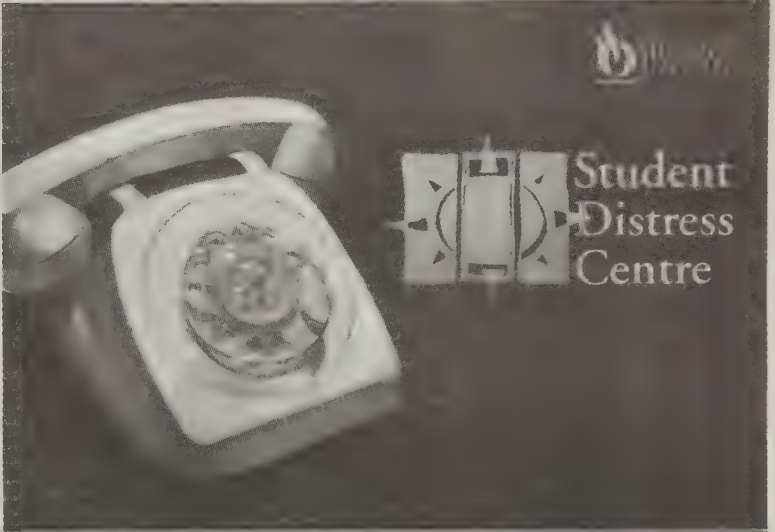
Australian cricketer Michael Clarke was born.

So this is what it's come to, huh? A staff ad about the birth of a cricket player. Clearly, I'm out of ideas—if you have any good ones, though, be sure to volunteer for *Gateway Sports* in one of our four summer issues. Drop us a line at sports@gateway.ualberta.ca and we'll get you set up.



GATEWAY SPORTS

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no issue is too big or too small

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April 26th and May 3rd 1-4pm

Cost is \$5.00 a clinic.

Please e-mail to register early before space fills up.

Please e-mail Heather Peddle

h_peddle@yahoo.com for more information or

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*Incentives for groups who would like to enter a new team

Teams with no chance, Bruins make our '09 Cup pick

SPORTS
STAFFGroup
Commentary

With the Stanley Cup Playoffs just under two weeks away, here are the Gateway Sports staff's picks for Lord Stanley's Mug in 2009.

John Keohane

The NHL playoffs are the ultimate test of physical endurance and mental resolve. Consisting of a potential 28 game marathon spanning four grueling series, it's paramount that potential victors have a unique blend of skill and character, as well as a variety of intangible factors. Unfortunately, I have no idea what any of these factors entail, so I go the grinder route and pull the hometown card.

As of this writing, the Oilers are cozily situated in eleventh place in the Western Conference standings with six games remaining. In all reality, they'll likely miss the playoffs for the third straight season. So why would I pick them to take it all? Simple: I need it to happen.

The months of April, May, and June 2006 constitute the greatest epoch of my short 19 years on this planet. So the very notion that such a beautiful circumstance could be replicated prompts all logic to be thrown out the window. Why can't the Oilers squeeze into the playoff picture? Is it so unfeasible to imagine MacT's squad putting it together for an upset? Probably.

But that's the whole point of cheering for the hometown team. Even when it appears as if all is lost, even when it seems a foregone conclusion that we will be caught once more in that hellacious limbo between playoff contender and lottery squad—even then, hope springs eternal.

And if not, take New Jersey or San

Jose. Just know that I'll be in my room, sobbing softly to myself as I cling to my 2006 blow-up Cup for dear life, loyal and naïve to the end.

David Johnston

Absolutely no question, the Colorado Avalanche are this year's Stanley Cup Champions. I know the situation looks bleak for them, and I know a lot of terms are being bandied about like 'statistically impossible' or 'no chance in hell,' but hear me out.

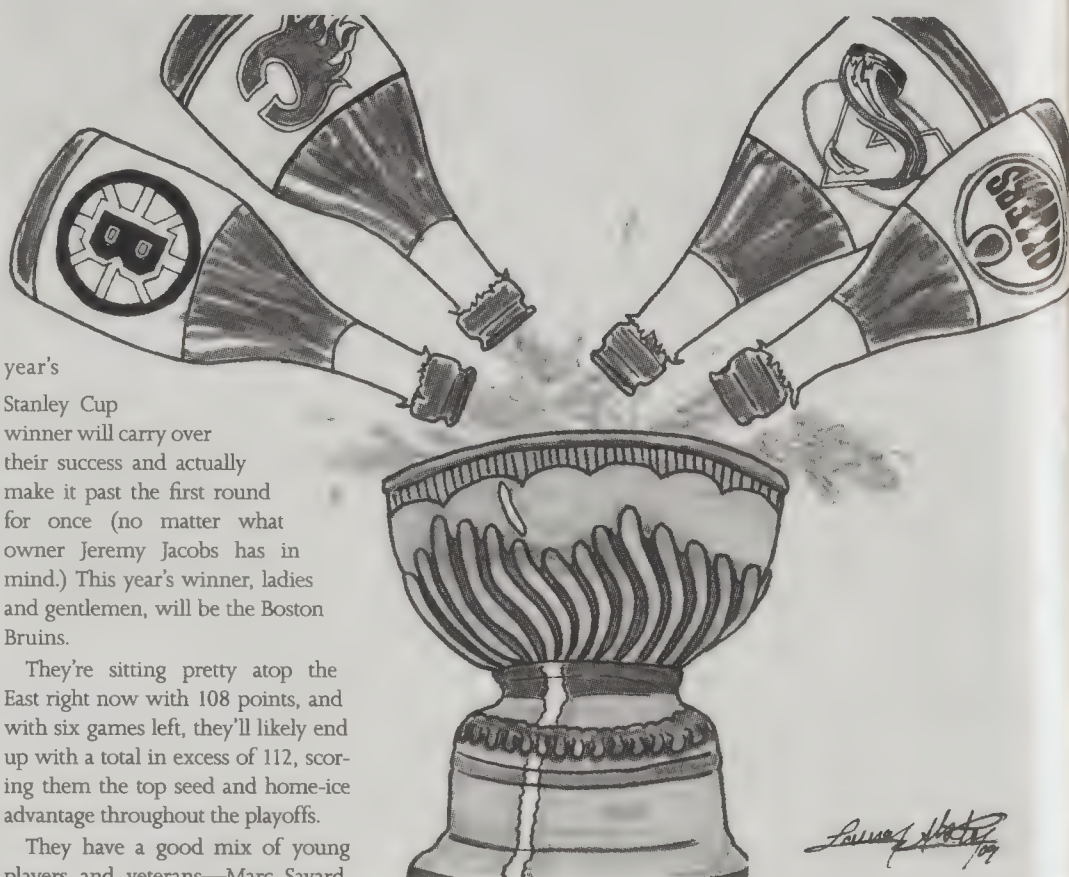
Okay, fine. Former leading scorer Paul Stastny is out for pretty much the rest of the season with a broken foot. And sure, defenseman Ruslan Salei followed a week later with a foot injury of his own. But Ryan Smyth is still active, and he's got game. And goaltender Peter Budaj may not be the highest-ranked player (or the nineteenth-highest ranked player), but given his steady improvement of late, it's looking like he could score a string of shutouts to launch the Avs into the playoffs.

And from there? Who wouldn't support the Cinderella story of this rejected, beaten team getting a second chance to redeem themselves for the glory of their fans and the forefathers of major-league hockey? It's a classic. Jerry Bruckheimer is already purchasing the movie rights. Seriously, these guys are looking like the team to beat.

And to all those people who believe I'm only supporting the Avalanche because the sporting goods store I work part-time at mistakenly got an enormous shipment of Avalanche jerseys and have no way to sell them? Shame on you. Shame on you for believing that I would ever use my journalistic integrity to sell comfortable, padded, highly affordable garments that match a surprising amount of any customer's wardrobe. Shame. I totally support the Colorado Elephants ... erm, Avalanche.

Matt Pretty

After surprising everyone this season with their massive overachieving, this



year's

Stanley Cup winner will carry over their success and actually make it past the first round for once (no matter what owner Jeremy Jacobs has in mind.) This year's winner, ladies and gentlemen, will be the Boston Bruins.

They're sitting pretty atop the East right now with 108 points, and with six games left, they'll likely end up with a total in excess of 112, scoring them the top seed and home-ice advantage throughout the playoffs.

They have a good mix of young players and veterans—Marc Savard, Mark Recchi, and Chernobyl experiment Zdeno Chara help keep the kids in line, while young talent like Phil Kessel, Blake Wheeler, and David Krejci concentrate on scoring goals and allowing the team to thrive.

The Bs have one of the most well-rounded young players in the game: Milan Lucic. "Looch" was on my fantasy hockey roster for most of this year, and he's quickly becoming one of my favourite players to watch—the kid can do it all: score, hit, fight, pass, and skate, and he'll do it with energy.

Finally, they're an Original Six team, and they're due for a win (their last Cup was in 1971/72). Boston has been one of the most successful sports towns of the decade—the Patriots, the Celtics, the Red Sox, even Major League Soccer's New England Revolution, have all won championships recently, and the Bruins can't let the rest of the teams in Beantown have all the fun.

Mike Kendrick

If there were any doubts who would come out on top with Stanley's drink in this year's playoffs, they were quickly stifled at the trade deadline. By acquiring powerhouse Olli Jokinen for their top line, the Calgary Flames are making a statement and coming back to finish what they started in the 2004 Finals.

What the Flames lost in speed by trading away centre Matthew Lombardi, they've gained in raw scoring ability. Jokinen's got 29 goals to his name this year, and has potted eight hot potatoes since donning the red jersey. Alongside Jarome Iginla and Michael Cammalleri, Jokinen's ensured that the Cowtown Crusaders will come out in full force when the playoffs start.

On the blue line, Robyn Regehr and recently re-acquired Jordon Leopold have already seen the Finals, and

superstar defenseman Dion Phaneau knows that there's a spot on the polished base with his name on it. Pierre McGuire may draw the hockey fans across the country, but one thing he seems to have right on: hard-on for the big-body presence.

Sure, the Flames have stumbled a bit in the past few games, but overcoming their annual start-of-season slump, they quickly shook the head of the pack and have maintained a stranglehold on the top spot in the Northwest division for a big part of the season. Although their loss Monday coupled with Vancouver's victory over the Wild finally shook them down into fourth spot in the West, with a coach like Mike Keenan, it should only serve to motivate them. The way I see it, they're just getting their bad games out of the way before the playoffs start.

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APRIL 10

WIN a double pass to attend the advance screening of **OBSERVE AND REPORT** on Wednesday, 8 April, 2009 at 7pm at Westmount Centre Cinemas. One of 10 double passes will be awarded in a random draw on Monday, 6 April.

How to enter: E-mail your name, phone number and e-mail address to contests@gateway.ualberta.ca by 6pm Monday, 6 April. One double pass per winning entry.

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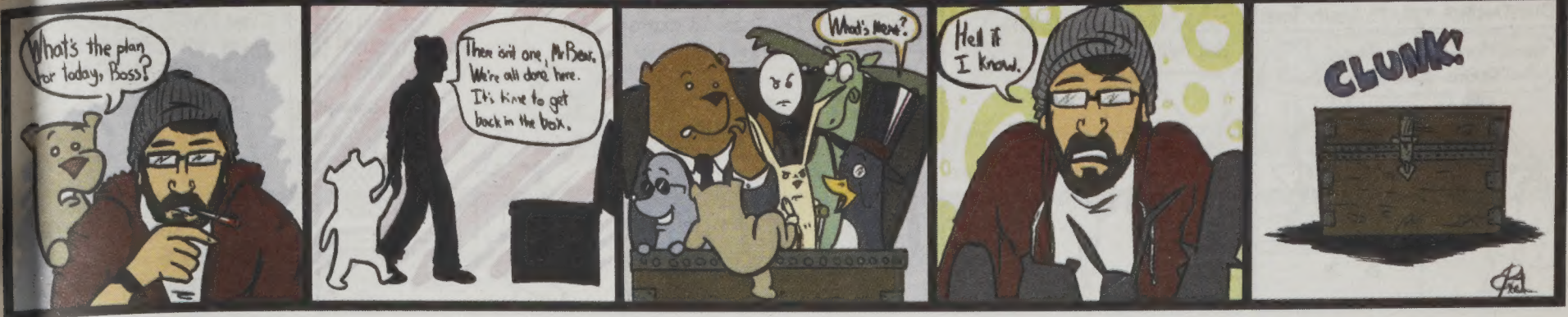
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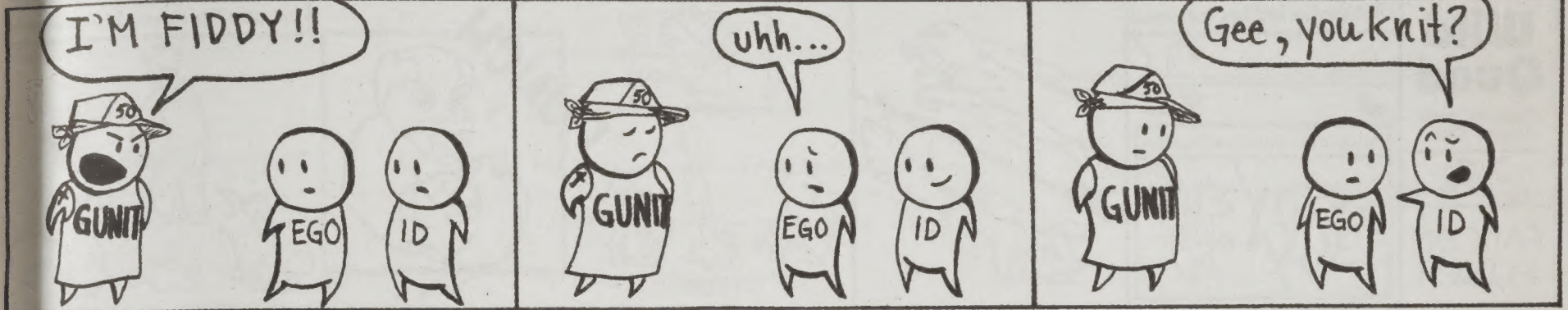
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THE RESTLESS WICKED by Marie Gojmerac



RENTAL GEESE by Mike Kendrick



CIRQUE DE GATEWEAUX by Kelsey Tanasiuk



DR BANANA by Ross Vincent

DR. BANANA TREATS ANGRY TOAST

Good Morning, Mr. Toast. What seems to be the problem?

I GOT BURNED.

Gosh, that's awful! Who did this to you?

JUST SOME OLD ARMY BUDDIES OF MINE.

EXIT

That would explain all the Soldiers over there...

STOP STARING! AT MY PRIVATES.

FUN FACT: "SOLDIERS" ARE WHAT YOU CALL STRIPS OF TOAST, IDEAL FOR DIPPING IN EGG!

VISIT US FOR MORE FUN TOAST FACTS!

UNISAUCE by Hylie Chan

Wild Quad

Campus' only Nature Show

Now with no funding (and obscure reference)

FALCON PUNCH

A Devil Squirrel and Rabid Bunny are at a stand off

Only one can claim Quad Territory

And so the King Pigeon gets his Just Desserts

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FT summer help required for busy SW law firm. E-mail resume to: adorczak@telus.net

EMPLOYMENT—PART TIME

P/T weekend Personal Care Aide needed for Female Quad, NE area, close to transit, \$16/hr, Call Robin (RAPS) 425-5450 or email resume with availability to jmh6@shaw.ca

EMPLOYMENT—TEMPORARY

RGIS Inventory Specialist is looking for FT Inventory Counters from May to August. \$12-\$13/hr to start with lots of hours. Applicants with their own vehicles preferred. For more information please visit www.rgisinv.com/careers and email your resume to dist523@rgis.com

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astronowatch

by Kati Kovacs

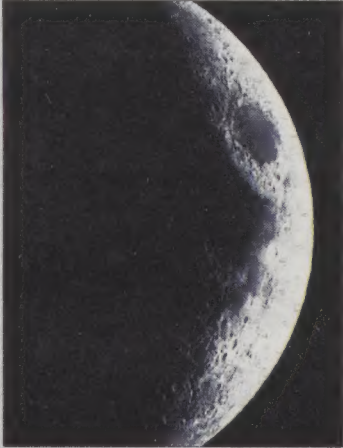
Are you chumps excited for the end of classes next week? I am! It means clear hallways and shorter lines at Tim Horton's for me. Yay!

Sorry for my absence last week. I was in glamorous New York City buying a pink ballgown. Can my life get any better? I also ate softshell crabs for the first time. They were... interesting. Definitely edible, and very creepy.

In case you weren't paying attention yesterday, Expedia was offering a very low fare on flights to Mars; only \$99! I hope you booked yours!

Make sure you celebrate the first-quarter moon today, exactly at 12:34 pm. Or else.

Also, the FABservatory will be open from 9-10pm tonight. You'll be able to see the lovely planet Saturn!



AstronoWatch is a weekly feature that covers the goings-on in the night skies, the galaxy, and sometimes even Kati's personal life. Keep up with Astronowatch online at thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch or check out the FABservatory's site at www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory

solution, tips and computer programs at www.sudoku.com

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The Gateway Winter 2009 Reader Survey

Way better than stressing over term papers

It's your turn to let us know what you think about the Gateway. Is it a twice-weekly tradition or blasphemous birdcage liner? Right-wing propaganda or pinko-commie rag?

Complete this survey and hand it in at the Gateway office in 3-04 SUB, or at InfoLink Information Booths in SUB, CAB, HUB, or ETLC by 12pm on Friday, 3 April, 2009 and you could win prizes!

How often do you read the Gateway?

- ☐ Rarely ☐ Monthly
☐ Weekly ☐ Twice weekly

How often do you read the Gateway Online?

- ☐ Rarely ☐ Monthly
☐ Weekly ☐ Twice weekly

The Gateway publishes:

- ☐ Too many issues ☐ Not enough issues ☐ Just enough issues

The Gateway's issues are:

- ☐ Too big ☐ Too small ☐ Just right

The Gateway's ad-to-content ratio is:

- ☐ Too high (too many ads) ☐ Too low (could stand for more ads)
☐ Just the right balance

With 1 being your favourite, rank the sections of the Gateway from 1 - 6:

- ☐ News ☐ Opinion
☐ Sports ☐ Arts & Entertainment
☐ Comics ☐ Features

On average, how long do you spend reading each section of the Gateway (in minutes)?

- ☐ News ☐ Opinion
☐ Sports ☐ Arts & Entertainment
☐ Comics ☐ Features

What type of Gateway News articles do you read most?

- ☐ Campus news ☐ Local news ☐ National news
☐ Streeters ☐ Science and technology ☐ People profiles

What type of opinion articles do you read most?

- ☐ Political commentary ☐ Humour/satire ☐ Student life
☐ Weird/random musings ☐ Point-Counterpoint

What type of A&E articles do you read most?

- ☐ Film ☐ Theatre ☐ Music ☐ Gaming
☐ Visual arts ☐ Commentaries

What sports would you like to see receive more coverage?

Are you aware that University of Alberta students pay a \$3.09 per-term student levy to help fund the Gateway?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you aware that the Gateway is autonomous from the SU and University?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you aware that any student can volunteer for the Gateway?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Rate the following from 1 to 5, where 1=wretched and 5=rad:

PRINT EDITION

How convenient do you find the Gateway's distribution points?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's News section?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's Opinion section?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the editorial cartoons?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's Arts & Entertainment section?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's Sports section?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's features?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's comics?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate this semester's illustrations?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the Gateway's photography?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the Gateway's layout and design?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the Gateway's coverage and representation of:

Undergraduate students and lifestyle

- 1 2 3 4 5

Local Issues and Edmonton lifestyles

- 1 2 3 4 5

SU policy and administration

- 1 2 3 4 5

University policy and administration

- 1 2 3 4 5

In general, how would you rate Gateway's relevance to students?

- 1 2 3 4 5

Overall, how would you rate Gateway this semester?

- 1 2 3 4 5

WEBSITE

How would you rate the Gateway Online's navigability and ease of use?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the design?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the timeliness of its content?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the search and archiving functions?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the blogs?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the RSS feeds?

- 1 2 3 4 5

How would you rate the online archives?

- 1 2 3 4 5

Overall, how would you rate the the Gateway Online?

- 1 2 3 4 5

If you or someone you know has decided to stop reading the Gateway, what were the reasons?

What would you like to see more or less of in the Gateway?

What improvements would you like to see to the Gateway Online?

What should each section of the paper (News, A&E, Sports, Opinion, Comics, Features) do that it currently doesn't?

What was the best article, photo, and/or illustration in the Gateway this year? Why?

What was the worst article, photo, and/or illustration in the Gateway this year? Why?

What were the best/worst front covers in the Gateway this semester? Why?

Who are your favourite Gateway writers/photographers/artists? Why?

Have you ever thought about volunteering for the Gateway? Why or why not?

Do you prefer to read the Gateway in print or online?

If you're a returning student, do you think the Gateway has gotten better or worse since you first started reading it? Why?

Please add any additional comments here:

Where do you live?

- ☐ At home (with parents) ☐ On campus
☐ Off campus

How old are you? _____

Are you:

- ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other

What's your faculty/program?: _____

What year?: _____

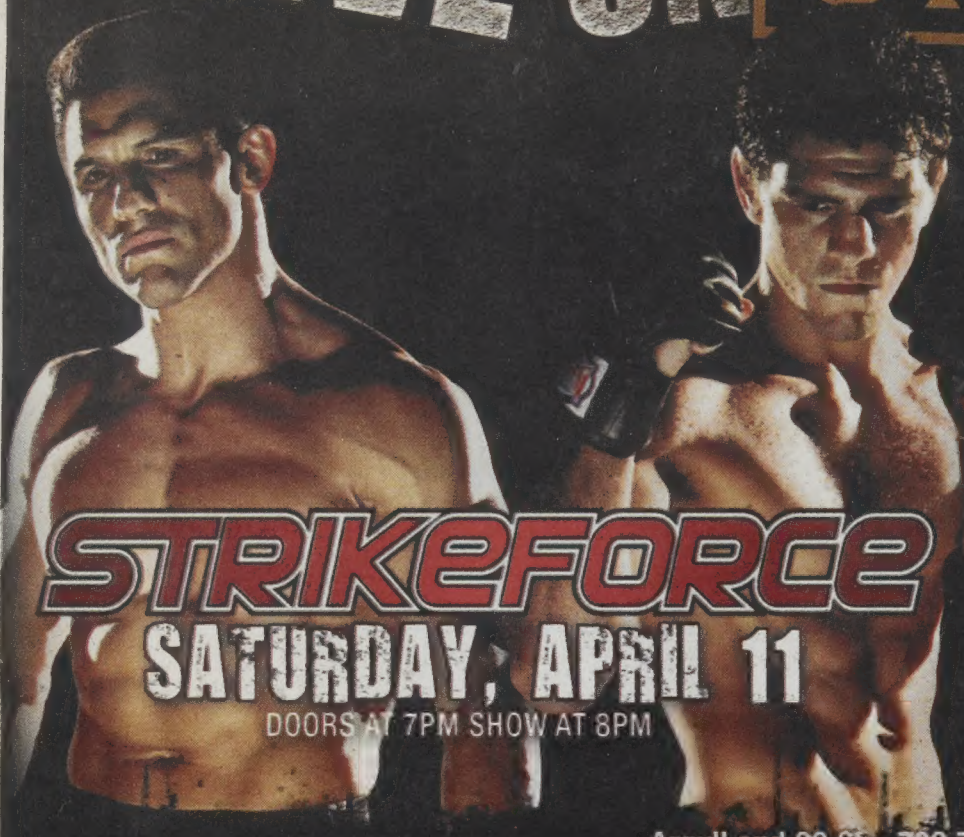
E-mail: _____

This survey is completely anonymous, but prizes will be awarded to randomly drawn surveys, including fantastic Gateway merchandise like t-shirts, frisbees, toques, and tons of swag from our A&E fun sack!

Take the survey online at
www.thegatewayonline.ca/survey

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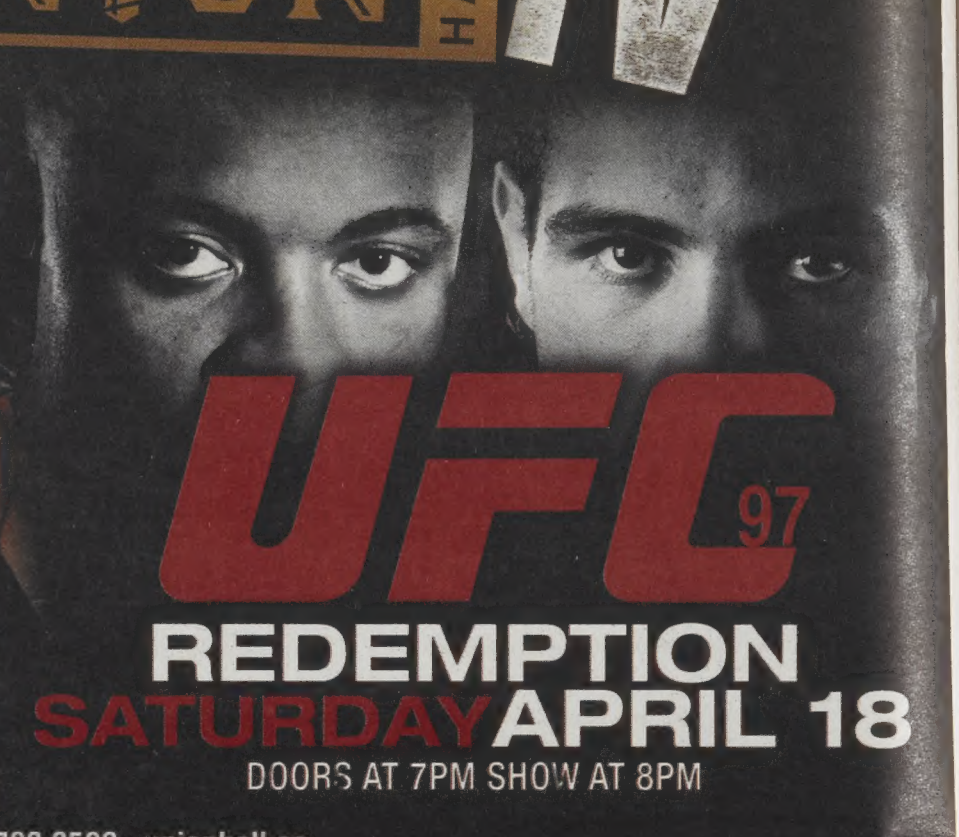
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SATURDAY APRIL 18

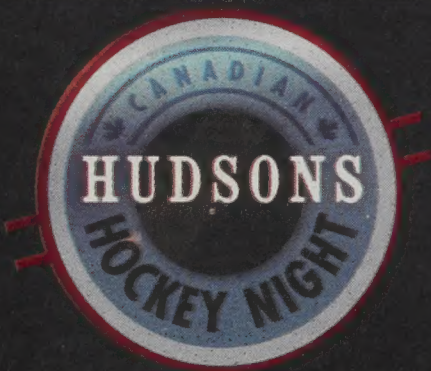
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